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## SEPTEMBER MEETING, 1878.

The stated meetings were resumed, after a vacation of three months, on Thursday, the 12th instant, at the rooms of the Society in Boston, at 11 o'clock A.M.; the President, the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The record of the previous meeting was read and approved.

The Librarian reported the donations to the Library since the meeting in June. He called attention to a number of books relating to the Rebellion, the gifts of Mr. Amos A. Lawrence, and to a valuable collection of letters and papers relating to the discovery and conquest of America, entitled "*Cartas de Indias*," published under the auspices of the Spanish government, and the gift of the "*Ministro de Fomento*."\* The thanks of the Society were ordered for these donations.

The President then said:—

In meeting again, this morning, Gentlemen, after our summer vacation, we have fresh cause for gratitude to God that amid all the casualties of the past months, and while an appalling pestilence is raging among our Southern brethren, our own little Resident Roll remains undiminished. One vacancy only, created by the sincerely regretted resignation of Professor Parsons before our last adjournment, is still to be filled, for which a nomination was made in June. Our Hundred will then again be complete.

Meantime, we have to regret the loss from our Corresponding Roll of Mr. Evert A. Duyckinck, of New York, who died in that city on the 14th of August last, in the sixty-second year of his age. Mr. Duyckinck was a gentleman of singular amiability and excellence, and greatly esteemed by all who had the privilege of his acquaintance. He had been a large contributor to Historical Literature. He published a volume of "*Poems relating to the American Revolution*" in 1865; a "*History of the War for the Union*," in three volumes, in 1861-65; a

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\* The administration of government in Spain is intrusted to eight departments or ministries, — State, Justice, War, Finance, Marine, Interior, Colonies, and Fomento. This last includes public works, agriculture, industry, commerce, and public instruction. See Maurice Block's *Dict. général de la Politique*, article *Espagne*. — Eds.

“National Portrait Gallery of Eminent Americans,” in two volumes, in 1869; and a “History of the World, from the Earliest Period to the Present Time,” in 1870. A charming little volume, too, of “The Wit and Wisdom of Sydney Smith,” published by him, with a Memoir, in 1856, will not be forgotten by any one who has read it. But his most substantial and important work was “The Cyclopædia of American Literature,” published originally in 1856, and to which he added a valuable Supplement in 1866. This is a work of permanent interest and value, and will take its place, with Chambers’s Cyclopædia of English Literature, and Allibone’s Dictionary of Authors, among the standard books of reference in all our public and private libraries.

Before turning to other topics, I am unwilling to omit the opportunity of mentioning another loss to Historical Literature, which has occurred within a few weeks past. I had made a memorandum, on my notes for our present meeting, to ask the concurrence of the Council of our Society in proposing the name of Henry Armitt Brown, of Philadelphia, as one of our Corresponding Members, and I have no reason to doubt that he would have been nominated to-day. He will be remembered by many of us, as the eloquent young Philadelphian, who came on as a delegate to our Centennial Tea-Party Celebration, in December, 1873, and made an admirable Address at Faneuil Hall on that occasion. In the following year, he delivered a really brilliant Historical Discourse in Carpenters’ Hall, Philadelphia, on the One Hundredth Anniversary of the meeting of the old Congress of 1774, which deservedly attracted great attention. In December last, he delivered another Historical Oration, of hardly inferior interest, at Burlington, New Jersey, in commemoration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the settlement of that place by the Quakers. More recently still, he had been engaged to deliver the Orations on the Centennial Anniversaries of Valley Forge, on the 19th of June last, and of the Battle of Monmouth, on the 28th of the same month. As the result of fulfilling the first of these engagements and preparing for the second, he was struck down with a fever, from which he did not recover. He died on the 24th of August last, in the thirty-third year of his age.

Mr. Brown has always kindly sent me every thing which he printed, and I have never failed to read whatever he sent; and I know of no young man, or old man, of his period, who has exhibited greater power or skill in working up the historical materials which he labored with so much zeal and enthu-

siasm in collecting. He was an orator of no second class, and his sketches and illustrations of the scenes and events which he depicted were most felicitous and impressive. Had his life and health been prolonged, he could hardly have failed to rise to great distinction; and his death, at so early an age, and after such signal evidences of his taste and talent for historical research and description, entitle him to be remembered in our records, though it be too late to inscribe his name on our rolls. I am glad to observe a statement in the papers, that his Anniversary Addresses are to be made up into a Memorial Volume.

I proceed now to communicate two or three papers, which have come to me from various sources.

Our Corresponding Member, Mr. W. Noël Sainsbury, under date of 3d July last, writes as follows: "I have the pleasure to enclose herewith the transcript of an Entry in one of our Printed Calendars (Home Office Papers, 1760-1765), published *this day*, which I think will interest you. I do not know offhand whether this account has been printed before, but I think not." I leave it to our committee to decide whether it shall be printed in our Proceedings.\*

I have here, also, a letter from the Rev. Dr. Charles Rogers, Secretary of the Royal Historical Society of England, announcing the presentation to our Library of all the publications of that Society, and explaining how it has happened that we have not received them before. These volumes are now on our table, and you will authorize me, I am sure, to return our grateful acknowledgments to Dr. Rogers and the Society.

I turn lastly to a letter of Governor Hutchinson's, written in London, 25th of May, 1775, which affords a striking illustration of the confidence he still entertained that the American Revolution would prove a failure, and that our Boston patriots would be overawed and overpowered by the measures of the British Ministry. His hope that "the senseless Confederacy will be at an end," and his intimation of "a total and perpetual exclusion of all Americans from the Fishing Banks," are amusing, if not edifying, at this day. I chanced to observe the original of this letter in the marvellous autograph collection of Mr. Lewis J. Cist, of Cincinnati, when I visited that city in May last; and, at my request, Mr. Cist

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\* The volume of the Calendar containing this entry reached the libraries of this country in July. The abstract, which refers to events in Rhode Island connected with the Stamp Act, is printed there on pp. 609-611, and it is not thought advisable to reprint it here. — EDS.

has sent me a copy of it. It has no address, but it was evidently written to some one on this side of the Atlantic. It was dated after he must have heard of the events at Lexington and Concord, and it may have reached Boston about the time of the Battle of Bunker Hill. It is written in a tone of great confidence, but in entire consistency with that moderation and dignity of spirit and temper by which Governor Hutchinson's conduct and correspondence were characterized even under the greatest provocations.

ST. JAMES'S STREET, 25 May, 1775.

DEAR SIR,—I have omitted thanking you for your letter of the 18th February, and for the pamphlet enclosed. I am glad to see so many pens drawn in defence of Government. It is much better than drawing swords. I have always had secret hopes that the latter would not be necessary. Before this reaches you, I fancy you will be able to determine whether my hopes were well founded.

The act for restraining your trade ought to convince everybody that they have been wickedly and cruelly deceived by assurances that the people of England would be so enraged by the American combinations as to bring about a change in administration, in order to a compliance with American demands. I firmly believe that such compliance would have caused a change in administration; and I am assured by the best judges that the body of the people of the kingdom were never more united in any thing than in the present measures with respect to America; and if Franklin, who is undoubtedly employed by two or three of the opposition here, should still prevail upon you to adhere to the combinations in expectation of Government's giving way, he will increase your distress, but it will have no tendency to cause any change of measures here. There is no more certain way of judging of the general temper of the people than by the part which the knights of shires, who are independent of the minister, take in Parliament. They are in general more determined than the dependants upon administration; and I think it was one of them who declared he was ready to pay thirteen shillings in the pound, if Government could not be supported without it. I hope, therefore, this senseless confederacy will be at an end before the act takes place. If it should hold until another session of Parliament, the members will be so incensed against you that I think the first act will be a total and perpetual exclusion of all Americans from the fishing banks. I shall not, however, be surprised to hear that there has been a strong party who had nothing to lose pressing to a perseverance; but I trust the country has friends enough to overpower it. Parliament is to rise to-morrow.

I am your faithful, humble servant,

THO: HUTCHINSON.

I fancy what I write of the general sense of the kingdom will be confirmed by the letters of the New England men now in London, for they have expressed to me their great surprise to find it so different from what they conceived in America.

The Hon. John Lowell, of Boston, was elected a Resident Member.

The following vote, recommended by the Council, was adopted :—

*Voted*, To commit the disposition of the specimens of natural history remaining in the Society's Cabinet to a committee, with full powers. The Cabinet-keeper and Colonel Theodore Lyman were named as this committee.

Mr. DEANE, from the committee to consider the application of Messrs. Houghton, Osgood, & Co., to print Dr. Holmes's Memoir of Mr. John L. Motley, in a separate volume, reported that the matter would be arranged satisfactorily to Dr. Holmes and to the Society.

The President presented, for the Library, a copy of the separately printed preface by Mr. Sainsbury to the latest volume of the Calendar of State Papers. This volume relates to the East Indies, China, and Japan. He also read a note from Mr. Alexander T. Laughton, Secretary of the Scots Charitable Society of Boston, presenting a copy of their newly published Constitution and By-Laws, with a List of Officers and Members, and Extracts from the Records from the year 1657; this being the oldest incorporated charitable society in Massachusetts.

Mr. DEANE laid before the Society an old manuscript from its archives, on the cover of which was written, in an ancient hand, "The Govern<sup>t</sup> Setled w<sup>th</sup> a Presedent and Counsell"; and beneath this, in the hand of the Society's late Assistant Librarian, Dr. Appleton, the following,—"Journal of the President and Council of New Hampshire." He submitted the following communication respecting it :—

The jurisdiction of Massachusetts was extended over the New Hampshire settlements in 1643, in which year, in September, Exeter was admitted to the terms of the union, to which Portsmouth and Dover had subscribed on the 14th of June in the preceding year. Hampton was claimed from the first to belong to the territory and jurisdiction of Massachusetts.\* This jurisdiction over the New Hampshire towns continued till 1679-80. Covering this period there are no records, except what are connected with, and contained in, the Records of the Massachusetts Colony.

When it had been decided in England that neither Massa-

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\* See Mass. Coll. Rec., vol. i. p. 324, vol. ii. p. 43; Provincial Papers of New Hampshire, vol. i. p. 146; Farmer's Belknap, pp. 31, 32.

chusetts nor Robert Mason had a right to rule New Hampshire, it became necessary to provide some other government for the four towns which still constituted the whole inhabited part of that territory. The King, in Council, accordingly instituted such an authority. New Hampshire was created a Royal Province. John Cutts (or Cutt) of Portsmouth, a respected merchant, now far advanced in life, was made President of it, with power to appoint a Deputy. Six persons were designated to compose his Council, with three others chosen by them. The Governor and Council were to be a judicial court, subject to an appeal to the King in Council, in cases involving a value of more than fifty pounds. They were authorized to appoint military officers, and, with the concurrence of an assembly, to assess taxes. The assembly, to consist of Deputies of the towns, was to constitute a part of the government so long as the King should not see fit to order otherwise. Enactments were to be immediately transmitted to the Privy Council, and were to remain in force until disallowed by that authority. Liberty of conscience was to be maintained. It was ordered that a seal should be transmitted to the Province, with a portrait of the King and the royal arms, to be set up at the seat of government.\*

The commission was brought to Portsmouth on the first of January, 1679-80, by Edward Randolph, than whom, says Belknap, there could not be a more unwelcome messenger;† and its contents were made known to the persons named in it as magistrates. They were, besides the President, Richard Martyn, William Vaughan and Thomas Daniel, of Portsmouth; John Gilman, of Exeter; Christopher Hussey, of Hampton; and Richard Waldron, of Dover. "All of them were well affected to Massachusetts, and no one was ambitious of the position to which he was raised. They accepted the trust simply from a conviction that, if declined by them, it would fall into hands that would deal less justly with the rights and interests of their neighbors. They took the oaths of office, and elected for their associates Elias Stileman of Portsmouth, Samuel Dalton of Hampton, and Job Clements of Dover. They appointed Richard Martyn to be Treasurer, Elias Stileman to be Secretary, and John Roberts to be Mar-

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\* See Farmer's Belknap, pp. 88, 89; Palfrey's Hist. of New England, vol. iii. pp. 402, 403, whose excellent summary of Belknap, and of the Commission to Cutts, I here follow, in his own language.

† Farmer's Belknap, pp. 90, 91. The Commission is in Provincial Papers of New Hampshire, vol. i. pp. 373-382. It passed the seals on the 18th of September, 1679.

shal; and the President designated Richard Waldron as his Deputy. They issued writs convening an Assembly, to consist of two deputies from Exeter, and three from each of the other towns, and appointed a Fast-Day to pray for the continuance of their precious and pleasant things."\*

Of the new government thus instituted, the paper which I now lay before the Society is the earliest record, — that is to say, it is the record of the Governor and Council, from January 1, 1679–80, to December 16, 1680, a period of one year, — and it has never been printed.

The manuscript consists of twenty-three folio pages, closely written, and is in the well-known hand of Elias Stileman, the secretary of the Province and clerk of the Council; that is, from the establishment of the new government till he was superseded by Richard Chamberlain, — a period of one year. It is in excellent preservation. There is one blank leaf at the beginning, and three at the end; and one leaf, probably a blank one, has apparently been torn out immediately following the last leaf of manuscript. The whole is enclosed in a paper cover, made from part of an ancient Dutch map, the face turned inward. On the outside of the cover is written, probably in the Secretary's hand, "The Govern<sup>t</sup> Setled w<sup>t</sup> a Presedent and Counsell," followed by the modern inscription already referred to. The sheets and cover are firmly stitched together.

It might naturally be inferred that this manuscript belonged to the archives of the Provincial Government of New Hampshire, if such a deficiency exists in their public records.† The following extract from a letter of Richard Chamberlain, the successor of Mr. Stileman in the office of secretary and clerk, may throw some light upon this point. It is written from New Hampshire to the Lords of the Council of Charles II., under the date of May 16, 1681: —

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\* Palfrey's *New England*, vol. iii. pp. 403, 404, and the authorities cited by him. For brief notices of President Cutts and the members of his Council, see *N. H. Hist. Soc. Coll.*, vol. viii. pp. 305–352.

† From a note in Farmer's *Belknap*, p. 459, published in 1831, and from the contents and notes of the eighth volume of "*New Hampshire Historical Collections*" and the first volume of "*Provincial Papers*," both edited by the late Dr. Bouton, I should infer that the original manuscript records (like such as now form the subject of this communication) of the Provincial Government of New Hampshire, from its institution in 1679–80 to the administration of Barefoot inclusive, were not now known to be in existence. What are published in the two books last named are probably papers from "the files" which never formed any part of the Records, and such fragmentary papers as were originally copied from the Records, and now lie scattered in several depositories in the State. Of course there were no records kept in New Hampshire under the general governments of Dudley and Andros.



In obedience to your Lordships' commands, by your letter of the first of October last, requiring me to give your Lordships an account of all matters transacted in the office of Secretary (and clerk of the Council) of this Province of New Hampshire, I humbly present to your Lordships this following narrative:—

Upon the twenty-fourth of December [1680] I arrived at Portsmouth, at the house of John Cutt, Esq., then President, since lately deceased, unto whom I delivered your Lordships' letter of September 30, 1680; and showed him his Majesty's Commission, whereby I was appointed Secretary for the Province and Clerk of the Council.

Upon the 28th December the Council met, where the said Commission and your Lordships' letter were publicly read. It was debated about three days whether they should admit me or not; but at length, upon the 30th of the said month, I was admitted. According to the duty of my place and office, I did desire the books and papers of the Council's proceedings to be delivered to me, which were in the hands of Mr. Stileman, one of the Council. For the Council book, it was denied me, upon pretence that there was not any. Then desiring one to be made, I was told the country was poor, &c.; but afterwards, at their meeting in March, I had a waste-book of the Council's Acts and Orders delivered me, to transcribe and keep; the fairer book, then brought, being to remain in the hands still of Mr. Stileman. For the records and papers, recorded as "on file," he retains them too, as an officer called Recorder; and is besides Clerk of the Writs, besides Captain of the Fort, as appears in the general account to your Lordships. For, to make my commission insignificant, they have appointed three among themselves to be parcel Secretaries or Registers of the Province, &c.\*

It appears by this narrative of Chamberlain that the rough minutes (or "waste-book") of Stileman were delivered to him to "transcribe and keep"; while the "fairer book" exhibited to him was still to remain in the hands of Mr. Stileman by virtue, as was claimed, of his office of "Recorder and Clerk of the Writs," &c. Our copy of this manuscript therefore is, without doubt, Stileman's "fairer book," transcribed by him from the original minutes which he kept during the meetings of the Council, as is the custom with such clerical officers, and retained by him in his personal possession after he was superseded in his office by Chamberlain, between whom and the members of the old Council there was no very friendly feeling.

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\* Jenness's Transcripts of Original Documents relating to New Hampshire: New York, 1876, pp. 93, 94. This letter as recorded, or originally published, is so badly punctuated in many places that its meaning is obscured. In the above extract, I have endeavored to punctuate it according to the meaning of the writer.

From whom did the Historical Society receive this manuscript? We should naturally seek to trace its previous possession to Dr. Belknap, who, in his *History of New Hampshire*, cites the "Council Records," from the earliest session of that body "in the handwriting of Elias Stileman, Secretary,"\* down to near the close of Cranfield's administration; and whose papers have found their way, some as well before as since his death, to the archives of the Society. I find no record of its having been presented by name, but in the early history of the Society large masses of manuscripts were sometimes given, with no indication as to their character or contents. The manuscript was deposited in Cabinet No. 41 of the Society with a mass of ancient papers not very well arranged for consultation, though they were principally catalogued some twenty years ago on slips of paper preparatory to printing in a volume. A printed or even a complete manuscript catalogue of the Society's papers is yet a desideratum. My eye fell upon this relic while searching for materials to illustrate the early proceedings of the Society now passing through the press.

I cannot but think that these records contain several details, only briefly summarised by Dr. Belknap, relating to the provincial history of New Hampshire, to be found nowhere else; and it appears to me that we should be doing a friendly service by publishing the manuscript for the use of our historical friends in that State which for so long a period formed a part of Massachusetts. I therefore recommend that it be printed in the *Proceedings of the Society*.†

The Society voted to commit the manuscript to Mr. Deane, to be prepared for the press.

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\* See Farmer's Belknap, pp. ix. 109, 110.

† In printing this manuscript, I have made the spelling and the punctuation conform generally to modern usage. Abbreviations have been spelled out. The names of persons I have allowed to stand as they are written. A heliotype of the first page of the original manuscript is given.

Portsmouth in the province of N-Hampshire Janua<sup>r</sup> primo 1679

This day by the hands of Edw. Randolph Esq<sup>r</sup> w<sup>th</sup> his Master & Council for the prov<sup>t</sup> of N-Hampshire received his Majesty's letters of grace & favo<sup>r</sup> for the Gov<sup>t</sup> of said province together w<sup>th</sup> a letter from y<sup>e</sup> Kings Master & his Hon<sup>ble</sup> privy Council.

January y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1679

The president & Council mentioned in his Majesty's commission assembled at y<sup>e</sup> president's house in Portsmouth & then & y<sup>e</sup> distinctly read his Majesty's Commission as directed. /

January y<sup>e</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1679

His Majesty's Commission<sup>Commission</sup> nominated in said books of respect as mentioned in's Commission. /

January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1679

This day the Inhabitants of the province of N-Hampshire had seasonable notice did convene together in Portsmouth before y<sup>e</sup> Assembly his Majesty's Commission was Read unto them & a clamation made of his Majesty's receiving them into his great favour & protection<sup>with</sup> was received w<sup>th</sup> gr<sup>at</sup> acclamations of Guns in severall parts of's Towne of Portsmouth. /

This day also the president made Speech of Richard Walbron Esq<sup>r</sup> Deputy to y<sup>e</sup> great satisfaction of y<sup>e</sup> Council, also was added to Council<sup>in</sup> Elias Stileman Sam<sup>r</sup> Dalton & Job Plimley

in the province of N-Hampshire Janua<sup>r</sup> primo 1679

this day by the hands of Edw. Randolph Esq. w<sup>th</sup> his Master, president  
Council for the prov<sup>t</sup> of N-Hampshire received his Master's Commission  
& grace & fav<sup>r</sup> for the Gov<sup>t</sup> of said province together w<sup>th</sup> a sealed  
Letter from y<sup>e</sup> Kings Master & his hon<sup>ble</sup> privy Council.

January y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1679

The president & Council mentioned in his Master's Commission  
assembled at y<sup>e</sup> president's house in portsm<sup>th</sup> & then & y<sup>e</sup> ~~made~~  
distinctly read his Master's Commission as directed. /

January y<sup>e</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1679

his Master's Commission<sup>Commission</sup> & Nominated in said took y<sup>e</sup> prospective oath,  
mentioned in s<sup>d</sup> Commission. /

January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1679

this day the Inhabitants of the province of N-Hampshire having  
received seasonable Notice did convene together in portsm<sup>th</sup> in publick  
before y<sup>e</sup> Assembly his Master's Commission was Read unto them & pro-  
clamation made of his Master's receiving them into his gracious re-  
mune & protection<sup>with</sup> & was received w<sup>th</sup> gr<sup>t</sup>. acclamation & firing  
of Guns in severall parts of s<sup>d</sup> Towne of portsm<sup>th</sup>. /

this day also the president made Thrice of Richard Walbron Esq. his  
deputy to y<sup>e</sup> great satisfaction of y<sup>e</sup> Council, also was added to y<sup>e</sup> said  
Council<sup>in</sup> Elias Stileman Sam<sup>r</sup>. Dalton & Job Clements, the

The president & council mentioned in his master's commission  
assembled at y<sup>e</sup> president's house in portsmouth & then & y<sup>e</sup>  
distinctly read his Master's Commission as directed. /

January y<sup>e</sup> 21<sup>th</sup> 1679

His Master's Commission<sup>Commission</sup> was nominated in said books y<sup>e</sup> respective  
as mentioned in s<sup>d</sup> Commission. /

January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1679

This day the Inhabitants of the province of N-Hampshire  
had seasonable notice did convene together in portsmouth  
before y<sup>e</sup> assembly his Master's Commission was read unto them  
clamor made of his Master's securing them into his great  
favor & protection<sup>with</sup> was received w<sup>th</sup> gr<sup>t</sup> acclamations  
of Guns in severall parts of s<sup>t</sup> Towne of portsmouth. /

This day also the president made choice of Richard Walbron &  
Deputy to y<sup>e</sup> great satisfaction of y<sup>e</sup> Council, also was added to  
Council<sup>Mr</sup> Elias Stileman<sup>Mr</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Dalton & Job Plim  
said Stileman & Dalton took y<sup>e</sup> respective oaths of alle-  
giance & to their places & offices. /

The president & council agreed upon & ord<sup>d</sup> for a proclamation  
to be sent forth to all y<sup>e</sup> Townes w<sup>th</sup> in this province to order a  
choore their respective places until they take further  
as sh<sup>l</sup> followeth. /

To all his master's good Subjects the Inhabitants of portsmouth  
Dover & Exeter in his master's province of N-Hampshire

The president & council mentioned in his Majesty's commission  
assembled at y<sup>e</sup> president's house in portsmouth & then & y<sup>e</sup> ~~made~~  
distinctly read his Majesty's commission as directed. /

January y<sup>e</sup> 21<sup>th</sup> 1679

His Majesty's commission<sup>Commission</sup> nominated in said books y<sup>e</sup> respective oaths,  
mentioned in s<sup>d</sup> commission. /

January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1679

This day the Inhabitants of the province of N-Hampshire having  
received seasonable notice did convene together in portsmouth in publick  
assembly his Majesty's commission was Read unto them & pro-  
clamation made of his Majesty's requiring them into his gracious re-  
mune & protection<sup>with</sup> was received w<sup>th</sup> gr<sup>t</sup>. acclamation & firing  
of Guns in severall parts of s<sup>t</sup>. Towne of portsmouth. /

This day also the president made choice of Richard Walron & y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>t</sup>. his  
deputy to y<sup>e</sup> great satisfaction of y<sup>e</sup> Council, also was added to y<sup>e</sup> said  
council<sup>in</sup> Elias Stileman Sam<sup>r</sup>. Dalton & Job Clements, the  
said Stileman & Dalton took y<sup>e</sup> respective oaths of allegiance  
Supremacy & to their place & office. /

The president & council agreed upon & ord<sup>d</sup> for a proclamation to  
be sent forth to all y<sup>e</sup> Townes w<sup>th</sup> in this province to order all officers  
to keepe their respective places until they take further ord<sup>r</sup>. w<sup>th</sup>  
to do w<sup>th</sup>. /

As his Majesty's good Subjects the Inhabitants of portsmouth Hampton  
New & Exeter in his Majesty's province of N-Hampshire in New  
Engl<sup>a</sup>

[*Records of the President and Council of New Hampshire.*]

PORTSMOUTH, IN THE PROVINCE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,  
Januã : primo, 1679.

This day, by the hands of Edw. Randolph, Esq., we, his Majesty's President and Council for the Province of New Hampshire, received his Majesty's Commission of grace and favor for the Government of said Province, together with a seal and letter from the King's Majesty and his honorable Privy Council.

*January the 14th, 1679.*

The President and Council, mentioned in his Majesty's Commission, assembled at the President's house, in Portsmouth, and then and there distinctly read his Majesty's said Commission, as directed.

*January the 21st, 1679.*

His Majesty's Commissioners nominated in said Commission took their respective oaths as mentioned in said Commission.

*January 22d, 1679.*

This day the inhabitants of the Province of New Hampshire, having had seasonable notice, did convene in Portsmouth, and in public before the Assembly his Majesty's Commission was read unto them, and proclamation made of his Majesty's receiving them into his gracious favor and protection, which was received with great acclamation, and firing of guns in several parts of said town of Portsmouth.

This day also, the President made choice of Richard Waldron, Esq., for his Deputy, to the great satisfaction of the Council; also was added to the said Council Mr. Elias Stileman, Mr. Samuel Dalton, and Mr. Job Clements. The said Stileman and Dalton took their respective oaths of allegiance, supremacy, and to their place and office.

The President and Council agreed upon and order for a proclamation to be sent forth to all the towns within this Province, to order all officers to keep their respective places until they take further order, which is as followeth :—

[SEAL.] To all his Majesty's good subjects, the inhabitants of Portsmouth, Hampton, Dover, and Exeter, in his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, in New England, per order of the President and Council assembled at Portsmouth, this 22d of January, 1679, and in the 31st year of his Majesty's reign :

Be it known unto you and every one of you that the President and Council do order and declare, in his Majesty's name, That all Commissioners, Constables, Marshals, Grand Jurymen, and all other officers, Civil and Military, do keep their respective places and attend the duty and concerns of the trust to them already committed until further order be taken by his Majesty's Government, now here established. And, if any trespass be done to any town or person in their liberties or

properties, the selectmen and officers shall take effectual care to suppress and restrain the same according to their several places and offices; and if any person have already presumed to do any trespass upon any town, person, or peculiar, they are alike required to forbear, as they will answer the contrary at their peril.

God save the King.

The original copy put on file.

At a meeting of the President and Council, the 4th February, 1679, — present the President, Deputy President, Mr. Ric. Martyn, Lt. Vaughan, Capt. Daniel, E. Stileman, Secretary, —

*Agreed*, That a warrant be drawn up and sent to every of the selectmen within the four towns, to take a list of the names and estates of their respective inhabitants, according to their usual manner of making single country rates, and send in to the Council by the 16th instant. Copy of the warrant followeth: —

*To the Selectmen of Dover, &c.*

IN HIS MAJESTY'S NAME:

You are required forthwith to take a list of the names of your inhabitants, together with the value of their estates, after the manner as you have been wont to do for the making of a single country rate, and deliver the same to one of the Council with you, in season to be brought in to the President and Council for New Hampshire at their sitting, on the 16th day of this instant, February, in Portsmouth, hereof you are not to fail.

Per order of the Council.

E. S., *Secretary*.

Dat. in Portsmouth, the 4th February, 1679.

John Baker and Philip Duley, being brought before the Council, the said Baker for slock<sup>\*</sup> away said Duley (who had hired himself with Mr. John Cutt some time before to be as a seaman in his ship) under a pretence of an indenture said Baker exhibited before the Council, which indenture was antedated several days before his first agreement with said Mr. Cutt, as by his own confession and the testimony of John Barsham and Robert Williams, on purpose to deceive, as also for his contemptuous carriage before the Council, together with his threatening of them that, if he had not justice, he would try his case in England: sentence him to be committed, and forthwith sent to prison, and to endure a month's imprisonment without bail, or to redeem the same by paying a fine of 50 shillings in money and all costs, and to be fed with bread and water, prisoner's fare.

And said Philip Duley, for telling of several lies in the face of the Council thereabouts, and making of contracts first to one and then to another before he had performed the first engagement: sentence him to be forthwith whipped to the number of ten stripes on the bare back; which accordingly was performed.

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\* To "slock" is to entice, to steal. A "slockster" is one that slocks or enticeth away men's servants. See Halliwell's "Dict. of Archaic and Provincial Words," &c. — C. D.



George Harrison, being complained of by the selectmen of Portsmouth for that he had bought a servant woman, viz. Hester Ward, out of Capt. Woodland's ship, and left her upon the town of Portsmouth to be at charge to maintain her, made this answer: that he had sold her to Zack: Trickie; but, it not appearing, the Council orders that the said Harrison take care of her, and secure the said town from being at charge, and right himself in a course of law upon said Trickie.

The verdict of the jury of inquest concerning the untimely death of Mathew Quire brought in and put on file of the Council's Records.

PORTSMOUTH, the 16th of February, 1679.

At a meeting of the Council, the President and Deputy President present, —

Job Clements, Esq., being chosen one of the Council for the filling up their number, took the oath of allegiance, supremacy and oath of his office.

The Council being informed of the great neglect of the present constables, and sundry other the constables in the several towns within this Province, in gathering their respective sums committed to them for the discharge of the war, and satisfying the towns' and counties' engagements to their ministers and other disbursements for the town's use, do order and enjoin all and every such constable and constables in each town that are behind, upon their utmost peril, that by the 13th of March next they see and gather in the same, and clear up all their accounts with the several treasurers and selectmen that they were and have been directed by warrant in the premises to do, and make it so to appear before those of the Council in each town where such are behind, as aforesaid, on pain of themselves and estates being distrained on for the satisfaction thereof; and further, if the constables cannot find estates, they are to distrain on the persons of such, and them to carry before those of the Council in their respective towns, to be ordered to work the same out or otherwise, according to their discretions. The Council also doth declare that if any person or persons shall think themselves aggrieved, referring to the war rate, after that they have paid the same, that such just complaints shall have a hearing by them; and if it appears to them that any person is injured by overrating, or otherwise respecting to that concern, they will cause restitution to be made to him or them so grieved, always provided that if it shall appear to them that his or their complaint be found unjust, he or they shall pay the charge.\*

*To the Constables of, &c.*

You are required, in his Majesty's name, forthwith to acquaint your present selectmen with this order of the Council, whereby you may receive from them instruction and direction who of your former Constables are behind in their rates, that by you they may be advised to attend the order as above. Fail not hereof at your peril.

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\* The taxes levied on the inhabitants of the New Hampshire towns by the government of Massachusetts yet remained, to a considerable extent, undischarged. See Secretary Rawson's Letter to the New Hampshire authorities, dated 20 May, 1680, in Mass. Coll. Rec., vol. v. pp. 276, 277. — C. D.

An act made for the calling of a General Assembly :—

We, the President and Council of his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, being required by our commission to call a General Assembly of the said Province, and it being left to us to judge and determine what persons shall choose their deputies for the said Assembly, Do hereby order and declare in his Majesty's name that the persons hereafter named in the several towns shall meet together on the first day of March next, by 9 of the clock in the morning, and having first each of them taken the oath of allegiance (if they have not taken it already), which oath is to be administered by the member or members of the said Council there residing, choose from among themselves, by the major vote given in in writing, not exceeding the number of three persons, which persons so chosen are to appear at Portsmouth on the 16th day of March following, by 9 o'clock, there to attend his Majesty's service for the concerns of the said Province of New Hampshire, provided that we do not intend that what is now done be prececdential for the future, and that it shall extend no farther than to the calling this first Assembly, that they, being convened, may, as his Majesty's Letters Patents direct, make such laws and constitutions in this and other respects as may best conduce to the weal of the whole. And we do further order that the constable or constables in the several towns shall publish this writ, and warn all the persons concerned to attend their duties as is above expressed, and make a true return under their hands of the names of the persons so chosen. Further, it is ordered by this Council that no man shall vote for deputies but such as are mentioned in this list, upon penalty of paying a fine of five pound, and that no man put in but one vote for one man, and that they do not cut quite through the names they write in their papers. Also, that those of the Council in Portsmouth, Dover, Hampton, and Exeter, see the respective meetings in the several towns where they live regulated in all the premises according to the Council's true intent therein

The list of names follows :—

PORTSMOUTH.

Jno. Cutt, President,	} Esqs.	Jno. Seaward.	Walter Neale.
Ric. Martyn,		Sam. Keaise.	Leond. Weekes.
Wm. Vaughan,		Wm. Ham.	Nath. Fryer.
Thomas Daniel,		Tho. Harney.	Jno. Foss.
E. Stileman,		Obadi. Morss.	Geo. Jaffray. Not app'd.
Mr. Jos. Moodey.		Geo. Lauers.	Jno. Lewis.
John Pickerin.		Jno. Tucker.	Sam. Wentworth.
Tho. Jackson.		Jno. Shipway.	Jno. Clarke. Not app'd.
Geo. Bromhall.		Wm. Hearle.	Wm. Lux.
Pet'r Glanfield.		Jno. Cotton.	Tho. Parker.
Sam. Whidon.		Jno. Hunking.	James Leech.
Ano. Ellens.		Jno. Moses.	Jno. Fabes, Sen. Not app'd.
Wm. Cotton.		Hen. Beck. Not app'd.	Jno. Hinckes.
Jno. Whidon.		Jos. Walker.	Robt. Elliot.
Jno. Jackson. Not appeared.		Tob. Leare. Not app'd.	Hen. Sherburne.
Marke Hunking. Not app'd.		Ric. Sloper.	Geo. Wallis.
Ric. Shortridge.		Jno. Sherburn, Sen.	James Rendle.
Hen Saudige. Not app'd.		Jno. Westbrooke.	Nath. Drake.
John Dennet.		Jno. Brewster.	Jno. Odiorne.
John Fletcher.		Phil. Lewis.	Ano. Bracket.
Ric. Jackson.		Jno. Johnson.	Wm. Seauey, Sen.
John Partridge.		Mathi. Haines. Not app'd.	Tho. Seauey.
Reu. Hull.		Sam. Haines, Sen. Not app'd.	Robt. Purrington.
John Fabes		Sam. Haines, Jun.	

## HAMPTON.

Mr. Seaborne Cotton.  
Nath. Batchelour.  
Jno. Browne, Sen.  
Nath. Boulter, Sen.  
Moses Cox.  
Jno. Clefford, Sen.  
Jno. Clefford, Jun.  
Hen. Dowe.  
Godfrey Dearborne.  
Tho. Dearborne.  
Hen. Dearborne.  
Abra. Drake, Sen.  
Gersha. Elkins.  
Wm. Fuller.  
Wm. Fifield, Sen.  
Benj. Fifield.  
Hen. Greene.  
Isaac Godfrey.  
Edw. Goue.

Morrice Hobbs.  
Timo. Hilliard.  
Jno. Knowles, Sen.  
Tho. Louet.  
Tho. Marston.  
Ens. Moore.  
Wm. Marston.  
Jos. Moulton.  
Jno. Moulton.  
Jno. Marian.  
Tho. Nudd.  
Abra. Perkins.  
Isaac Perkins. Not app'd.  
Fran. Page.  
Tho. Filbrooke.  
Hen. Robey.  
Jno. Redman, Sen.  
Jno. Sanburne.  
Isa. Marston.

Hen. Moulton.  
Wm. Sanburn, Sen.  
Sam. Sherburne.  
Ano. Stannill.  
Robt. Smith.  
Jno. Smith, Coop'r.  
Jno. Smith, Tal'r.  
Tho. Sleeper.  
Josh. Shaw.  
Ben. Shaw. Not app'd.  
Ano. Taylour.  
Dan. Tilton.  
And. Wiggins.  
Tho. Wiggins. Not app'd.  
Nath. Wyer.  
Tho. Ward. Not app'd.  
Tho. Webster.  
Jos. Smith.  
Sam. Dalton, Esq.

## EXETER.

Mr. Sam. Dudley.  
Jno. Gilman, Esq.  
Robt. Wadleigh.  
Moses Gilman, Sen.  
Jonathan Robenson.  
John Folsom, Jun.  
Robt. Smart, Sen.

Kinsman Hall.  
Ralph Hall.  
Hump. Wilson.  
Edw. Gilman.  
Sam. Leuit.  
Edw. Smith.  
Ric. Scamon.

Moses Leuit.  
Daniel Gilman.  
Jonath. Thing.  
Petr. Folsom.  
Capt. Tippin.  
Edw. Hilton.

## DOVER.

Major Ric. Waldron, } Esqrs.  
Job Clements,  
Mr. Pike.  
Jno. Dam, Sen.  
Jno. Hall, Sen.  
+ Thom. Austin.  
+ Hump. Varney.  
+ James Nute, Sen.  
+ James Nute, Jun.  
Tho. Whitehouse.  
Jno. Hall, Jun.  
Jos. Canny.  
Tho. Roberts.  
+ Lt. Pomfret.  
Phil. Cromwel.  
Jno. Tuttle.  
Jno. Roberts, Sen.  
Jos. Beard.  
Tho. Chesley.  
Phil. Chesley, Jun.  
Rich. Carter.

Jno. Foss.  
Hen. Hobs.  
Benj. Heard.  
Jno. Ham.  
+ Rich. Oates.  
Eldr. Wintworth.  
Lt. Petr. Coffin.  
Jno. Heard, Sen.  
Robt. Euens.  
Wm. Horne.  
Jno. Church.  
Jno. Euens.  
Jno. Gerrish.  
+ Jno. Wingett.  
Ric. Waldren, Jun.  
Jos. Hall.  
Hen. Langstar.  
Jno. Dam, Jun.  
Wm. Furber, Sen.  
Ano. Nutter.  
Wm. Shackford.

Jno. Woodman.  
Steven Jones.  
+ Robt. Burnham.  
James Huggins.  
James Smith.  
Benj. Mathews.  
Jno. Bickford, Sen.  
John Hill.  
John Alt.  
John Rand.  
Tho. Edgerly.  
Wm. Perkins.  
Charles Adams.  
Jno. Meader, Sen.  
+ Jos. Smith.  
+ James Bunker.  
Jno. Davis, Sen.  
Nic. Follet. Not app'd.  
+ Wm. Follet.

Note that all above named have taken their oaths except those that have this mark + against them.

The President and Council, having seriously considered that weighty charge lying upon all that fear God, to acknowledge him in all their ways, enforced by that gracious promise of having their paths directed by him, being also encouraged by the good success that the people of God have met with when they have assembled themselves to seek the Lord by fasting and prayer, a right way for themselves, their little ones, and their substance; considering also that the unchangeable God,

which is the author and orderer of all the changes that pass over our heads, can only bless them to us; being likewise not unmindful of the many sins that are among us, which may justly provoke the Lord to come in his anger and displeasure against us; and feeling in themselves how insufficient they are for so weighty a charge in point of Government as is now laid upon them; and considering how highly we are engaged to pray for God's blessing upon our gracious King and all his weighty concerns for the advancement of the gospel and the good of all the people under his royal protection,—do upon these, and such like considerations, appoint the 26th day of this present month to be kept by all the inhabitants of this Province as a day of humiliation before the Lord, humbly to implore his gracious Majesty to pardon and purge away all our iniquities for his Name's sake, to direct and assist themselves in their endeavors to seek the weal of that part of God's Israel committed to their care, to revive his own work and maintain his own cause and interest in the midst of us, to continue our precious and pleasant things to us, and bless us with peace and prosperity with our neighbors in the several Colonies near us, together with all the churches of Christ abroad, and in a special manner that he will smile upon us with reference to the meeting of the General Assembly, that their agitations and conclusions may be for our good, that he will favor us in respect of the spring and seed time ensuing, and in all things do for us, and for our children after us, as the matter does require. And for that end do inhibit all servile labor on that day, and commend it to the Elders, Churches, and people, that they prepare and apply themselves unto a diligent, humble, and hearty attendance to all the duties of the same.

Richard Martyn, Esq., is chosen Treasurer for this Province during the pleasure of the President and Council.

John Roberts, of Dover, is chosen head Marshal of this Province, and Hen. Dowe of Hampton, under him.

Richard Scammon, complaining that George Jones did much trespass upon him, as at large in his petition put on file may appear, the Council orders that a warrant be sent to the constable of Exeter to cause him to forbear, and bring him to answer for so doing on the 16th day of March next.

At a General Assembly held in Portsmouth, in the Province of New Hampshire, the 16th day of March, 1679<sup>80</sup>: present of the Council:—

Richard Waldron, Esq., *Deputy President.*

Richard Martyn,	} Esqrs.
Wm. Vaughan,	
Tho : Daniel,	
Xtopher Hussey,	
Jno. Gilman,	
Elias Stileman,	
Sam : Dalton,	
Job Clements,	

*The Deputies :—*

Mr. Robt. Elliot,	} Portsmouth.
Mr. Philip Lewis,	
Mr. Jno. Pickerin,	
Mr. Anto. Stanion,	} Hampton.
Mr. Tho : Marston,	
Mr. Edward Goue,	
Lt. Peter Coffin,	} Dover.
Lt. Ano. Nutter,	
Mr. Ric. Waldren, Jun.	
Capt. Barthol : Tippin,	} Exeter.
Lt. Ralph Hall,	

Sundry laws and ordinances made at this sessions, and are in another book for that purpose.\*

Jno. Winget, being bound over to appear before the Council to answer for that which he said to Major Waldron, that himself had been rated 17*l.* and Major Waldron was rated but 21*l.*, and some other words tending to the slandering of those that made the rates, before a house full of people, said Winget acknowledged before the Council that he did say the words he was charged with in the warrant, and doth confess that he spake them unadvisedly, and was very sorry for them, with which the Council was satisfied.

The Council being informed of three boys of Dover, that ran away from their masters, being taken again and bound over to answer before the Council, the Council refers the issuing thereof unto Major Waldron and Mr. Job Clements, to hear and determine when they shall see cause to call them.†

17*th ditto*. — Mr. Edward Randolph came before the Council, informing them that he had seized a ship in the river for the King, and the master at the same time complaining that Mr. Randolph had done him much injury to stop his vessel when he had broken no law of his Majesty in any kind; for the issuing whereof Mr. Randolph desired a trial by a jury, which was granted him, provided both parties would join issue, and bind themselves in fifty pound bond apiece, with sufficient security to pay all costs of the suit.

18*th ditto*. — The said master came before the Council and desired that there might be an issue of his case, whereupon the Council sent to Mr. Randolph to acquaint him with the master's solicitation for an issue, who appeared and desired a copy of some papers that the said master left with the Council yesterday (as he said they promised him). The Council replied that, if he would enter his action and come to a trial, he might have any copies that were with them, or, if said Randolph would give a copy of his papers and parchments he had shown the Council and received back again, that the master might have them as he desired; else, they thought it but reason that the master should have his papers again without giving copies, as Mr. Randolph had his.

On petition of Marke Hunking, master of the ketch Providence, that the Council would be pleased to grant a special Court for the issuing of the difference between himself and Mr. Randolph about the seizure of his vessel, the Council grants the petitioner his petition, and appoint Tuesday next to hear the case, and order that a warrant be given by the Secretary to the constable of Portsmouth to summons a jury out of his precincts of twelve men to attend that service on that day by 9 o'clock in the morning.

Marke Hunking binds himself to the Treasurer of this Province, in a bond of ten pound, to pay all the charge of the suit while in trial.

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\* The Province Laws made "at this sessions," or session, are printed in Provincial Papers of N. H., vol. i. pp. 382-408. — C. D.

† See N. H. Hist. Soc. Coll., vol. viii. p. 39. — C. D.

*Secretary to grant Warrants.*

The Council order that the present Secretary shall grant all warrants and attachments until they shall take further order.

*Jury of Trials Oath.*

You swear by the living God that in the cause or causes now legally to be committed to you by this Court, you will true trial make, and just verdict give therein, according to the evidence given you, and the laws of this Province, or in defect thereof the laws of England, so help you God.

*Marshal's Oath.*

You, J. R., being chosen Head Marshal for the Province of New Hampshire, do swear by the ever living God that you shall perform, do, and execute all such lawful commands as shall be directed to you from lawful authority constituted by his Majesty in this Province, without favor, fear, or partiality, according to your best ability and the laws here established; so help you God.

John Roberts and Henry Dowe took the oath for Marshals in this Province.

*Oath of Witnesses.*

You swear by the living God that the evidence you shall give to this Court concerning the cause now in question shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; so help you God.

The Council finding a necessity of prisons, and keepers for them, for the securing of offenders and other persons for debt, do order that the prisons already at Hampton, Dover, and Portsmouth, shall be for the same use still; and Jno. Souter of Hampton, and Jno. Tuttle of Dover, and Richard Abbot of Portsmouth, be and are empowered prison-keepers to the several prisons in the respective towns where they dwell; and to receive all prisoners as shall be committed to them by authority, and this to continue during the pleasure of the Council.

George Jones appearing before the Council to answer to Mr. Richard Scammon's complaint, as by his petition at large the first of March last, the complaint was deliberately read unto him, and all evidences thereabouts produced by which the complaint was fully proved.

In the examination of the case, the Council find said Jones guilty of a trespass done to said Scammon, and of several lies and slanders; and a man of very ill behavior.

1. Sentence, that Mr. Scammon shall and may take off all those staves and timber that be upon the land within the line, which said Jones said he would not remove, before the case was heard.

2. For lying and slandering: sentence, to be whipped\* to the

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\* It will be understood that "said Jones" is the person who is here sentenced. — C. D.

number of five stripes, or redeem it by a fine of 10s. money. He paid his fine.

3. For his ill behavior in threatening words and carriages since (the breach of his bond at Salisbury last) that the Council asserted this Government: sentence, to be bound to the good behavior, and to continue until the quarter sessions or Court at Hampton, the first Tuesday in September next, and then to appear; and if, in case he shall ill behave himself in the mean time towards any person or persons, especially towards Mr. Scammon and his family, that then any one of the Council, upon legal proof, may and are hereby empowered to commit him to prison without bail or mainprise, there to continue during the Court or Council's pleasure, and pay costs in money or as money, viz.:—

To Mr. Scammon . . . . .	£	s.	d.
To the Treasurer . . . . .	02	5	6
To Constable Thing, for his trouble . . . . .	01	0	0
	00	10	0
	<hr/>		
	03	15	6

Mr. Scammon responds for this.

It is ordered by the Council that Richard Waldron, Esq., Deputy President, and Richard Martyn, Esq., with two whom the Deputies shall appoint, to join with them to give thanks in their behalf to the Reverend Mr. Joshua Moodey, for his great pains in his Sermon preached before them on Tuesday, the 16th of this instant, March, and desire him to print his Sermon, or give them his notes, and they will print it.

It is ordered that all the inhabitants from Wm. Seavie's to Sandy Beach, round to Little Harbor, shall be under the command of the Captain of the fort on Great Island, and to be called forth by him to the exercise of arms and such exegents as may happen on any alarm at said fort.

At a special Court held in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, by the President and Council, the 23d of March, 16<sup>79</sup><sub>80</sub>, being Tuesday:

#### JURY.

Mr. Nath. Fryer,	Mr. Jno. Fletcher,	} <i>legally called and sworn, and</i>
Mr. John Hinckes,	Mr. Sam. Kaiese,	
Mr. George Jaffray,	Jno. Tucker,	
Mr. Thomas Harney,	Rich. Jackson,	
Mr. John Shepway,	Obadi. Morss,	
Mr. Reu. Hull,	Nehem. Partridge,	

liberty granted to the plaintiff and defendant to challenge any of the Jury: neither plaintiff nor defendant objected against any, but declared themselves satisfied.

Marke Hunking, commander of ketch Providence, plaintiff, against Edward Randolph, Esq., defendant, in an action of the case, for going on board said ketch and putting the broad arrow upon his mast, reporting he had seized the said ketch as forfeited to the King, thereby obstructing his voyage and causing him to lie upon demurrage to his great damage. This case was pleaded in the President's house, and all

the evidences read that plaintiff and defendant had to say, and then committed to the Jury.

Jury finds for the plaintiff 5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* damages; and cost of Court, 8*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* money.\*

The Council orders that Mr. Randolph shall have all his papers and parchments he put into Court in the case between him and Mark Hunking, the Secretary taking copies and keep on file.

Edw. Randolph, Esq., being called before the Council to answer for his saying when he was pleading of his case against Marke Hunking, being asked where the Earl of Danby was, answered that he was hanged, for aught he knew; the which the Council takes as a great reflection upon such a great Minister of State.

Unto which Mr. Randolph said by way of acknowledgment that it was a sudden and a rash speech, being spoken in such a public assembly, and was sorry for it, and desired it might be passed by, wherewith the Council was satisfied and dismissed him.

*March 24, 1680.* — Capt. Walter Barefoote appearing before the Council, and examined by what power he set up a paper on the Great Island concerning customs to be entered with him, or whether he did set up such a paper there that all persons should enter with him: Answered, that he did set up such a paper, and must own it. Dismissed, and ordered to appear to-morrow.

*March 25.* — Capt. Walter Barefoote appearing before the Council, his indictment was read unto him: —

1. That you have, in a high and presumptuous manner, set up his Majesty's office of Customs, declared it by a paper in a public place on Great Island, for all persons concerned to come to make their entries with you at their peril, not having leave first from the President and Council of this Province so to do, which shows high contempt, being since his Majesty's authority was set up in this place.

2. That hereby you have disturbed and obstructed his Majesty's subjects both in greater and smaller vessels, and such as pass but from town to town and harbor to harbor, near adjoining, on their occasions, but must enter and take their passes with and from you, as proved by testimony.

3. Your peremptory answers; that, when any question was asked you, you would answer, My name is Walter.

Sentence to pay a fine of ten pound in money forthwith, and stand committed until it be paid.

Council order that Capt. Barefoote shall have his Commission and Instructions he received from Mr. Randolph returned him, the Secretary taking copies of them.

An act passed by the Council and Assembly to write to the Governor and Council of the Massachusetts, drawn up as follows: —

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\* "Granted execution, 4 November, 1680." — *Marginal note.*



*To the much Honored the Governor and Council of the Massachusetts Colony, to be communicated to the General Court in Boston.*

PORTSMOUTH, IN THE PROVINCE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,  
the 25th March, 1680.

The late turn of providence made among us by the all-ordering hand hath given occasion for this present application, wherein we crave leave, as we are in duty bound.

1. Thankfully to acknowledge your great care for us and your kindness towards us while we dwelt under your shadow, owning ourselves deeply obliged that you were pleased upon our earnest request and supplication to take us under your Government, and ruled us well whilst we so remained, so that we cannot give the least countenance to those reflections that have been cast upon you, as if you had dealt injuriously with us.

2. That no dissatisfaction with your Government, but merely our submission to divine providence and obedience to his Majesty's command, to whom we owe allegiance, without any seeking of our own, or desire of change, was the only cause of our complying with that present separation from you that we are now under, but should have heartily rejoiced, if it had seemed good to the Lord and his Majesty to have settled us in the same capacity as formerly.

3. And withal we hold ourselves bound to signify that it is our most unfeigned desire that such a mutual correspondency betwixt us may be settled, as may tend to the glory of God, the honor of his Majesty, whose subjects we all are, and the promoting of the common interest and defence against the common enemy, that thereby our hands may be strengthened, being of ourselves weak and few in number, and that if there be opportunity to be any ways serviceable unto you, we may show how ready we are thankfully to embrace the same.

Thus, wishing the presence of God to be with you in all your administrations, and craving the benefit of your prayers, and endeavors for a blessing upon the heads and hearts of us who are separated from our brethren, we subscribe.\*

Whereas his Majesty, by his Letters Patents, hath given express charge and command to the President and Council of this Province for the settling of the Militia in the hands of them that may be best qualified, for our defence, — Richard Waldron, Esq., is by the Council chosen Major-General over all the forces of foot and horse, &c., within this Province, and to have Commission drawn up and signed by the President, and seal of the Province affixed.

And it is further ordered that the persons hereafter mentioned shall be commissioned under the seal of the Province for the management of the Militia in the several towns, and that the President, with the

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\* This letter may be found also in the Mass. Coll. Rec., vol. v. pp. 280, 281. It is there subscribed by John Cutt, President, with the consent of the Council and General Assembly. — C. D.

Secretary, draw up and affix the seal of the Province to all commission officers.

For Portsmouth: Capt. Thomas Daniel, Lt. Walter Neale, Ens. Jno. Hunking.

For Dover: Major Richard Waldron, Lt. Peter Coffin, Ens. John Davis.

For Hampton: Capt. Xtophr. Hussey, Lt. Jno. Sanburn, Ens. ———.

For Exeter: Capt. Jno. Gilman, Lt. Ralph Hall, and Ens. Wm. Moore.

For the Fort: Capt. Elias Stileman, Lt. Nath. Fryer, Ens. Nath: Drake.

The chief officer in each company to choose their inferior officers.

*Ordered*, That there shall be for present but one troop in the Province, consisting of sixty troopers, besides the officers.

For the Troop: Capt. John Gerrish, Lt. Ano. Nutter, and Cornet Sam. Sherburn.

It is ordered by the Council that, if there be any troopers that have served under the command of John Gerrish, or in that troop of Norfolk, they shall be at their liberty to continue or not in the service of troopers any longer, they listing themselves foot soldiers in the towns of their present residence. And also such as are already troopers in this Province are anew to list themselves under Capt. John Gerrish and such others as are qualified according to law, for the filling up the said troop to the number of sixty, besides officers as above said.

At a meeting of the Council, April 1, 1680: the President and Council of New Hampshire, taking notice of his Majesty's command to his foreign plantations referring to the act of trade and navigation which are punctually to be observed by all his Majesty's subjects in the several Colonies in New England, —

Do therefore order and enact that henceforth all masters of ships, ketches, and other vessels coming from foreign parts into any of our ports within this Province, or do sail from hence, do without cover or fraud yield faithful and constant obedience to his Majesty's laws and ordinances for trade and navigation that are published in the book of rates according to the true intent and meaning of them, and that they do from time to time repair to the President, and thence to such other officer or officers as shall be by him and the Council appointed, to make entry of their ships and vessels, and to give bond and take their despatches as in the said rates are provided, on penalty of suffering such forfeiture, cost, and damage, as by the said acts are particularly expressed.

Per order of the Council.

E. STILEMAN, *Secretary*.

Portsmouth, in New Hampshire, April 1, 1680.

Mr. Ric. Martyn is chosen and appointed to take entry of all ships and vessels from foreign parts, and to give despatches, and to see to and look after the act and trade of navigation.

Capt. Elias Stileman is appointed to receive the powder and customs, as formerly.

Jno. Tucker is appointed and chosen to the office of Water Bailey, and to be Marshal's Deputy only in this town of Portsmouth.

The Assembly and Council adjourns to the first Monday in June next.

At an adjournment of the Council and General Assembly of the Province of New Hampshire, held in Portsmouth, the 7th of June, 1680, being Monday, —

*Ferries.*

It is ordered that all that keep ferries within this Province shall carry to and fro without any pay all or any of the Council, Deputies for the General Assembly, Jurymen which are upon the service of the Province; and all troopers in their common and general musters shall pay but 3*d.* horse and man, and foot soldiers only at a general muster shall pay one penny a person.

*Clerks to gather in their Fines.*

Ordered by the Council that all Clerks belonging to the horse and foot within this Province are hereby continued in their places, and are required forthwith to gather in and give an account to the chief officers where they do belong of all fines committed to them to gather, before this change of Government; and that a warrant be sent to Mr. Nathaniel Waire, Clerk of the troop, to gather in those fines committed to him from such persons, troopers, as are within the two towns of Hampton and Exeter, which did belong to Norfolk troop, and give account to the Council, and the Secretary is to send copies of this order to the chief officer in every town. And where any Clerk cannot find estate, he is hereby empowered to take their bodies and carry to prison until it be paid, or during the pleasure of the chief officer; and all prison-keepers are to receive them into their custody, and them safely to keep at their perils.

James Browne came before the Council, and confessed a judgment of 5*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* in money due unto John Pickerin.\*

Lt. Pomfret is granted a license to sell liquor by retail within and without doors of his own distilling, and cider of his own growth.

Agreed with John Tuttle to keep the prison at Dover, for which he is to have 4*l.* per annum, beginning his time the 20th day of February, now last passed, the like sum to be allowed to the rest of the prison-keepers within this Province, viz. Jno. Souter of Hampton, and Rich. Abbot of Great Island.

Mr. Robt. Wadleigh appearing before the Council to answer for his reproachful speeches against the Council and General Assembly, as

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\* "Granted execution, 8 June, '80." — *Marginal note.*

per testimony on file: sentence, to pay a fine of 5*l.* in money or goods equivalent, and pay the Marshal, for fetching of him down, 12*s.*; and the witnesses and fees, 2*s.* 6*d.*, and stands committed until it be paid.

Mrs. Frances Reyner, moving to the Council her great inability to manage her administration granted her at a County Court in 1677, upon the estate of the Rev. John Reyner, her son, partly because it was granted before the Government was changed, and partly that she is alone, and wants help; the Council therefore confirms and establisheth that administration granted, and joins Lt. Peter Coffin with her in administration upon the said Mr. Jno. Reyner's estate, and enjoin them faithfully to perform the place and office of administrators, according to law and custom; and all his houses and lands stands bound for the payment of his debts.

At a meeting of the Council, the 10th June, 1680, in Portsmouth: Edward Colcord and Ann his wife, being bound over to appear before the Council for their disorderly living, Upon a full hearing of the case, the Council doth order that the said Edward Colcord, and Ann his wife, shall stand bound to the Treasurer of this Province in the sum of 5*l.* apiece to be of good behavior each to the other during the pleasure of the Council, and that the said Ann do attend her duty towards her said husband in the use of the marriage bed according to the rule of God's word, which, if she refuse so to do, upon complaint to the next Court at Hampton, the Council doth order she shall be whipped to the number of ten stripes. The Council takes his own bond.\*

Granted licenses as formerly unto the persons under-named, their paying:—

	£	s.		£	s.
Jno. Clarke . . . . .	6		Lt. Pomfret . . . . .	0	0
Jno. Partridge . . . . .	8		Jos. Beard . . . . .	3	0
Rich. Webber . . . . .	1	10	Hen. Crowne . . . . .	7	0
Sam. Sherburne . . . . .	5		Jno. Johnson . . . . .	4	0
Hen. Robey . . . . .	3		Goodw. Tricke . . . . .	1	0

For direction unto the Major over all the forces in this Province and all the military officers in their several companies, the Council orders that, as a rule to them in their several places and discharge thereof, the laws and orders that formerly they have been regulated by shall be and continue the same till the Council take other order in all military affairs and concerns, and all the soldiers are required to yield obedience thereunto.

Wm. Hurford, for being drunk once on the Lord's day, the 23d of May last, and the day following, owned by him: sentence, to pay a fine of 5*s.* for the first, and breach of Sabbath 10*s.*, and for the second offence 10*s.*, and pay the Marshal 6*s.* and fees, 2*s.* 6*d.*, and stand committed till it be paid.

Mary Tibbet, widow, for committing fornication, having a bastard:

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\* See N. H. Hist. Soc. Coll., vol. viii. p. 40; Prov. Pap., vol. i. p. 367. — C. D.

sentence, to be whipped forthwith to the number of ten stripes, or redeem it by a fine of 40s. and fees. Jos. Canny passed for her fine.

Mr. Samuel Dalton is chosen Recorder of Hampton and Exeter.

The return of three boys, viz. Cornelius Tomson, Benj. Johnson, and Sam. Tibbets, who ran away from their masters, being referred to Major Waldron and Mr. Job Clements to examine and issue, their return in that affair is put on file of the Council's records.

Upon sundry presentments exhibited against John Waldron for drunkenness and neglect of his calling and disorderly living, also his father presenting a complaint against him for great abuses done to him in his age, and disobedient and rebellious carriages, with other informations of his vicious living, the Council doth sentence him to close imprisonment during their pleasure, and that he be debarred of all company except the keeper or others sent by authority, and also from strong drink, and that one of his legs be constantly chained to a post, and to be kept to work, as Mr. Martyn, Mr. Vaughan, and Capt. Stileman, or any two of them, shall appoint; and, if he refuse to labor, he shall be kept with prisoner's fare, and to be whipped to the number of ten stripes at a time, at the discretion of those gentlemen above named, and that they or any two of them shall provide him materials to work at his trade, and to dispose of the proceed for his own and his children's maintenance and livelihood, he not to dispose of any of his labors without the privity and consent of the gentlemen above-named, which the prison-keeper is to prevent, and pay officers' fees, 30 shillings.

Whereas his Majesty, by his Letters Patents sent to the President and Council of this Province of New Hampshire, hath given express command for the regulation of the military discipline, and the arraying and mustering of the soldiers for the defence and safety of this his Majesty's Province: It is therefore ordered by the President and Council that all the train soldiers within the bounds of this Province, from sixteen years old and upward, do from time to time obey such orders and commands as shall be given by the officers that are commissioned by this Government in the several towns, both respecting arms and ammunition and times of exercise, according to the laws and orders that are and shall be made concerning military affairs. And that those troopers that were formerly listed under the command of Major Pike, and now inhabitants in this Province, shall have liberty to list themselves and horses anew under the command of Capt. John Gerrish, Captain of the Troop in New Hampshire; and such as do not list themselves under his command are required to attend their duty in the foot company where they dwell, on penalty that is provided for neglect in that case.\*

The Assembly and Council adjourn to the 12th day of October, 9 o'clock.

At their adjournment, the 12th of October, 1680, it is ordered that

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\* See N. H. Hist. Soc. Coll., vol. viii. pp. 42-44. — C. D.

a Committee be chosen for the drawing up all the laws made by this Assembly as near as may be according to the laws of England, and will suit with the Constitution of this Province.\*

The Committee chosen are Ric. Martin, Esq., Mr. Sam. Dudley, Mr. Seaborne Cotton, Elias Stileman.

The Committee's return put on file.

Granted administration to Mr. Peter Twisden, of Isles of Shoals, upon the estate of John Boon, deceased.

It is ordered that a warrant be sent to all constables within this Province that are behind either for war rates, Province rates, town or ministers' rates, to appear at the Quarter Court, held in Portsmouth next, to answer for their neglect.

The Council and Assembly adjourn to the 2d Thursday in December next.

*To his Most Excellent Majesty, Charles II. by the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.†*

The humble address and petition of the President and Council of his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire, in New England, humbly sheweth, —

That, it having pleased your most excellent Majesty to separate us, the inhabitants of this Province, from that shadow of your Majesty's authority and government under which we had long found protection, especially in the late war with the barbarous natives, who (through divine protection) proved a heavy scourge to us, and had certainly been the ruin of these poor weak plantations (being few in number and otherwise being under great disadvantages), if our brethren and neighbors had not out of pity and compassion stretched forth their helping hand, and with their blood and treasure defended us, our lives and estates. Nevertheless, upon the receipt of your Majesty's pleasure, delivered by Edw. Randolph, Esq., upon the first of January last, directing unto and commanding the erecting of a new government in and over these four towns (the Government of the Massachusetts yielding ready obedience to your Majesty's commands, with reference to our relation formerly to them), although deeply sensible of the disadvantages like to accrue to your Majesty's Provinces, and ourselves, more especially by the multiplying of small and weak Governments, unfit either for offence or defence (the union of these neighbor Colonies having been more than a little instrumental in our preservation), we have taken the oaths prescribed us by your Majesty, and administered to your subjects of these four towns the oath of allegiance, and convened a General Assembly for regulating the common affairs of the people and making of such laws as may be of more peculiar use to ourselves, having special regard to the acts for trade and navigation set forth in the book of rates commonly printed and sold; and, if some obstruction occasioned by such as make great pretences of your Majesty's favor and authority had not hindered, we might have brought matters to a greater maturity,

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\* See "Historical and Bibliographical Notes on the Laws of New Hampshire, by Albert H. Hoyt," in the Proceedings of the American Antiq. Soc. for April, 1876. — C. D.

† This and the following letter are copied into the records at this place, without reference to chronological order. They were transcribed by Dr. Belknap, and published in the Appendix to his History of New Hampshire. — C. D.

yet hope to perfect something by the first opportunity of shipping from hence, but feared it might be too long to defer our humble acknowledgment of your Majesty's grace and favor in committing the power into such hands as it pleased your Majesty to nominate, not imposing strangers upon us; and it much comforts us against any pretended claimers to our soil, or any malevolent spirits which may misrepresent us (as they have done others) unto your Majesty or honorable Council while (beside the known laws of the realm, and the undoubted right of Englishmen) we have the favor of a gracious Prince to fly to.

We do therefore most humbly beg the continuance of your Majesty's royal favor and protection, without which we are daily liable to disturbance, if not ruin.

And as in duty bound we shall humbly pray, &c.

MARCH 29, 1680.

*To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.*

We, the President and Council of the Province of New Hampshire, have (according to your royal pleasure) given an account of our allegiance and observance of your Commission by Mr. Jowles, in March last, and therefore shall not give the trouble of repetition. According to your Majesty's command, we have, with our General Assembly, been considering of such laws and orders as do by divine favor preserve the peace and are to the satisfaction of your Majesty's good subjects here, in all which we have had a special regard to the statute book your Majesty was pleased to honor us with, for which, together with the seal for your Province, we return most humble and hearty thanks; but such has been the hurry of our necessary occasions, and such is the shortness of our summer (the only season to prepare for a long winter), that we have not been capable of sitting so long as to frame and finish aught that we judge worthy to be presented to your royal view, but shall, as in duty bound, give as speedy a despatch to that affair as we may. In the mean time, your subjects are at quiet under the shadow of your gracious protection, fearing no disturbance unless by some pretended claimers to our soil, whom we trust your Majesty's clemency and equity will guard us from injury by; and considering the purchase of our lands from the heathen, the natural proprietors thereof, and our long quiet possession not interrupted by any legal claim, our defence of it against the barbarous adversary by our lives and estates, we are encouraged that we shall be maintained in our free enjoyment of the same without being tenants to those who can show no such title thereunto. Further, we do gratefully acknowledge the mark of your princely favor in sending us your royal effigies and imperial arms, and lament when we think that they are (through the loss of the ship) miscarried by the way; and, seeing your Majesty is graciously pleased to license us to crave what may conduce to the better promoting of our weal under your Majesty's authority, we would humbly suggest whether the allowance of appeals mentioned in the Commission may not prove a great occasion, by means of malignant spirits, for the obstructing of justice among us. There are also sundry other things that a little time and experience may more evidently discover a great convenience in, which upon the continuance of the same liberty from your Majesty we shall with like humility present.

Thus craving a favorable construction of what is above suggested, and praying for your Majesty's long and prosperous reign, begging also the continuance of your Majesty's favor, out of which, if any of our adversaries, under a pretence of loyalty or zeal for your Majesty's interest,

should endeavor to eject us, we hope, upon liberty granted us, to speak for ourselves, we shall abundantly demonstrate that we do truly and sincerely subscribe,

Your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects,

PORTSMOUTH, IN THE PROVINCE OF  
N. HAMPSHIRE, June 11th, 1680.

JOHN CUTT, *President*,  
With the consent of the Council.

At a meeting of the President and Council, the 3d of November, 1680, Edward Randolph, Esq., having seized several pieces of canvas, which he called French goods, of Mr. Philip Severet and said Severet complaining he had wrong done him, said Randolph being then present, and could not be determined without a trial at common law, the Council enjoined said Mr. Randolph, and he promised to prosecute and bring the case to a trial at the Quarter Court, a month hence, which, if he did not, the goods seized should be delivered back to said Severet.

At a meeting of the Council, the Deputy being present, December the 7th, 1680, the Council doth order that the present selectmen of the town of Hampton do confirm the rate made by the last selectmen for the schoolmaster there, and direct it to the constables there, to gather, that so he may be satisfied according to bargains made with him.

Whereas, that notwithstanding several orders and injunctions that have been made and laid upon the several constables within this Province for their gathering of the rates that have been committed to them to gather respecting the war, Province, towns and ministers in the respective towns, and yet notwithstanding they have not fully attended their duty therein, the Council doth now order that if the several constables yet behind in the premises do not gather in their respective rates, and clear with the treasurer, selectmen, and ministers, as they do relate unto by the sitting of the Council and General Assembly, the first Tuesday in March next, that then execution shall be issued out upon such constables' estates for satisfaction.

The President and Council, with the Assembly, considering that having begun their year with fasting (as there was a great deal of cause, considering how matters were circumstanced with us), and having had since that time much experience of the Lord's wonted goodness in hearing our prayers, we have thought it our duty to end our year with thanksgiving, and to pay the vows that we made in the day of our fears and searchings of heart that were upon us. Do therefore order and appoint the 2d Thursday in January next to be kept as a solemn day of praise and thanksgiving throughout this Province, prohibiting all servile labor upon that day to all the inhabitants of the same, and calling upon them to enter into the Lord's house and bless his name for all his mercies for this year past, to our Nation and ourselves, particularly for preserving the Protestant interest and the life of his Majesty from the plots and designs of the Popish party, for



causing a good agreement between the Council and Deputies, for favoring us with health and peace in our borders, for graciously permitting us to stand one year longer in his vineyard, under the enjoyment of our liberties and privileges, both civil and ecclesiastical, and for affording us a competency of the fruits of the earth for our maintenance, for all which, and for all the rest of his kindnesses (too many for us to reckon up in order before him), we account the Lord's name worthy to be praised, and do advise to heartiness and seriousness in this duty, so that the fruit of our lips being offered up (through him), as also the fruit of our lives by a right ordering of our conversation, we may see more of God's salvation, goodness and mercy may follow us and ours, and we may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives, there to praise him all the days of our lives.

At a meeting of the President and Council, the 22d of December, 1680, the Council understanding that Mr. Beackum had a letter of attorney from Mr. Randolph to be his deputy searcher and informer, and that he could inform them that the rigging Mr. Severet and Mr. Nicholl's ships were rigged with were exported out of Europe, and had not paid custom in England, the Council sent for him, and on examination he said he heard he had a letter of attorney, but had not received it (only a private letter), which he thought was gone to the letter-breaker, naming Mr. Elliot,\* and, as to the rigging aforesaid, affirmed it came out of Europe, but could prove nothing of what he informed them of.

The Rev. GEORGE E. ELLIS, D.D., called the attention of the members present to a large portrait of Chief Justice Sewall, which had been deposited in the rooms during the summer vacation by the kindness of its owners, the Misses Ridgway of Boston, and from which an engraving had been made for the forthcoming volume of the Sewall Papers.

Mr. WILLIAM P. UPHAM presented, for the Cabinet, a number of heliotype *fac-similes* of papers relating to Major Robert Pike of Salisbury, Mass., made for one of his descendants, Mr. James Pike, of Philadelphia. Among these heliotypes was one of the curious and interesting letter, written at the height of the witchcraft delusion by Major Pike, or rather under his direction, the body of the letter being in the handwriting of Thomas Bradbury, while the interlineations are written by Pike, and the whole subscribed with his initials. The original is at the Essex Institute in Salem, and the letter is described and its authorship discussed in Upham's "Salem Witchcraft," vol. ii. pp. 447-452; and it is printed entire, *Ibid.* pp. 538-544. The originals of the other papers are preserved at the State House in Boston.

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\* Probably Robert Elliot, of Great Island, merchant, is the person here intended. — C. D.

Mr. GEORGE DEXTER stated that he had been permitted to examine some commonplace-books belonging to Mr. John F. Eliot, and that they contained copies of letters written from Boston, during its occupation by the British troops, by the Rev. Dr. Eliot, to his children and others.

Mr. DEXTER said: Andrew Eliot, D.D., was one of the few clergymen who remained in Boston during the siege. He had been settled over the New North Church since 1742, and was one of the prominent ministers of the town. He remained at first, as he says in one of these letters, from a sense of duty, that the people might not be without the ordinances of religion. Finding his situation uncomfortable beyond what he thought he ought to bear, he tried to leave in September, but was refused a pass, and forced to remain until the army evacuated the town. He had a large family, eleven children. The eldest, named for his father, was at this time the minister of Fairfield, Connecticut, and received and cared for the mother and the younger children, who left Boston the last of April. The second son, Josiah, remained with his father, and looked after the business affairs of the family. Samuel, the third son, to whom many of these letters are addressed, was a merchant in Boston, and had married the daughter of William Greenleaf. He, with his family and Mr. Greenleaf's, after entertaining some thoughts of taking refuge in Dartmouth, left Boston in August, and settled in Waltham. John, the fourth son, had graduated from Harvard College in 1772, and was pursuing his professional studies in Cambridge when the College was dispersed. For some time he had no settled home. He was a few weeks in Milton, from thence went to Dover where he began a school, and afterwards resided with Judge Cranch, in Quincy. He succeeded his father at the New North Church, and was one of the founders of this Society, and among its most energetic workers. Ephraim, the youngest son, was preparing for College, from which he graduated in 1780. Five of the six daughters were older than Ephraim.

Mr. John F. Eliot, the son of Ephraim Eliot, has kindly placed in my hands the originals of the letters to John Eliot; and Mr. Edward S. Ritchie, a grandson of Samuel Eliot, has permitted me to use the originals of those addressed to his grandfather. Portions of some few of these letters have been used by Mr. Waterston and Dr. Ellis, but it is thought best to print them here entire:—

*Andrew Eliot to Thomas Brand Hollis.\**

BOSTON, April 25, 1775.

DEAR SIR,—I wrote you by Capt. Robson, and should not so soon have troubled you again, were I not impelled by the unhappy situation of this town, which, by the late cruel and oppressive measures gone into by the British Parliament, is now almost depopulated, or will be in a few days. Filled with the troops of Britain, and surrounded by a Provincial army, all communication with the country is cut off, and we wholly deprived of the necessities of life, and this principal mart of America is become a poor garrison town. The inhabitants have been confined to the city more than a week, and no person suffered to enter. At length, the General hath consented that, if the inhabitants would deliver their arms, they should be suffered to depart. This proposal, humiliating as it is, hath been complied with. In consequence of this agreement, almost all are leaving their pleasant habitations, and going they know not whither. The most are obliged to leave their furniture and effects of every kind, and indeed their all, to the uncertain chance of war, or rather to certain ruin and destruction. The last week I thought myself in comfortable circumstances, had a convenient dwelling, well furnished; a fine library, made so very much by the munificence of our late most worthy friend; attended by a large, affectionate, and generous congregation; happy in a consort, one of the best of women; and surrounded by a large number of desirable children. Now, I am by a cruel necessity turned out of my house; must leave my books and all I possess, perhaps to be destroyed by a licentious soldiery; my beloved congregation dispersed, my dear wife retreating to a distant part of the country, my children wandering, not knowing whither to go, perhaps left to perish for want; myself soon to leave this devoted capital, happy if I can find some obscure corner which will afford me a bare subsistence. I wish to God the authors of our misery could be witnesses of it. They must have hearts harder than adamant if they did not relent and pity us. I am sensible your tender mind is deeply affected with this tragic scene. How would it have torn the benevolent heart of that excellent man whose death we so deeply deplore, but who as you justly observe is taken from the evil to come. Alas! when you so pertinently and almost prophetically used that phrase, little did I think what *was* to come. What misery doth pride and a lust of dominion bring on mankind! What doth Great Britain gain by this unnatural contest? How long before the proposed revenue, if it should be submitted to, would repay the charge of this cruel expedition? Your trade is destroyed as well as ours, and all parts of the British empire will severely feel the effects of this dreadful exertion of power. Must millions be sacrificed to a mere punctilio, to a mere point of honor? For the dispute which Great Britain maintains against her colonies is

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\* The heir of Thomas Hollis with whom Dr. Eliot had maintained a confidential correspondence for several years. — Eds.

in fact no more. She would gain, if she conquered, not near so much by taxes as she does in the way of trade. But, unhappily for us, she must assert her authority, and her supreme power must be owned; that is, her pride must be gratified, let what will follow. Forgive, dear sir, these severe reflections on the parent country. My heart is wounded, deeply wounded, almost to death. Surely there is a God that judgeth in the earth, and what must the contrivers of these schemes have to answer for in another world, if not in this. But I know not why I should make you unhappy by reciting what we suffer. My design is only that the friends of America, the friends of liberty, the friends of humanity, may unite their efforts for our deliverance. Great Britain may ruin the Colonies, but she will never subjugate them. They will hold out to the last gasp. They make it a common cause, and they will continue to do so. In this confusion, the College is broken up: nothing is talked of but war. Where these scenes will end, God only knows; but, if I may venture to predict, they will terminate in a total separation of the Colonies from the parent country. Your troops have made a most ill-judged manœuvre, were obliged to retire, and are now cooped up in Boston, afraid to march out, and expect to be assaulted within. If you should favor me with your correspondence, it must be by the way of New York. Please to direct to Mr. Andrew Eliot, minister in Fairfield, in the colony of Connecticut. That direction answers to my son, which will be the safest in the present state; for suspected letters are opened. You need not put under cover: my son will know for whom your letter is designed. Through his hands, it will come safe to me, if I should not be at Fairfield myself. But I trouble you too much, and shall only add that I am,

Your afflicted friend and humble servant.

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*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.*

Boston, May 4, 1775.

MY DEAR SON,—I have but a moment's time; am just going to preach a lecture; am distressed on every side. I wrote you two billets by Mr. Langdon, with two bundles and two dollars. Your mother and Nancy set out yesterday for Fairfield. Polly, Sally, Sukey, and Eph. went last Sabbath by water.\* Nothing keeps me from leaving the town but the obligation I am laid under not to leave so many people without any ordinances. Your sister Betsey will come to Mr. Vose's, if she can leave Samuel's wife and children. You ask me what you shall do. My dear child, what can you do? Can you get business of any sort? I wish you had gone to the eastward. Can you get a school? Can you preach? Possibly, in this strait, a few

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\* Dr. Eliot's interleaved Almanac contains this entry, 30 April: "My children sailed for Salem." These children, with their mother, remained in Fairfield, Conn., during the occupation of Boston by the troops. See Proceedings for June, 1878, p. 182. — Eds.

of my sermons might be of advantage. You shall have them, or money if you need it. I wish you had gone to Charlestown instead of Roxbury. Our correspondence would be much easier. Any thing I can do for you I will do. God bless you, my son.

Yours affectionately, in great haste.

My best regards to Mr. Vose and wife. May God reward their kindness to me and mine. Let me hear from you by Mr. Josiah Vose on the morrow. I believe Betsey will come there, if Mr. Vose will fetch her.\* It will be a great relief, if you can propose any thing for yourself.

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*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.*

Boston, May 9, 1775.

MY DEAR SON,—I hear you are at Milton. You must endeavor to spend your time to as much advantage as you can. Especially let the present troubles lead you to God. I wish you had joined to the church. I would have you do it at Milton, if you tarry there,† and labor after sincerity. O my son, my principal concern for you is that you may know God and Jesus Christ, whom to know is life eternal. If you could procure any way of subsistence, I should be glad; in a school; or if you had any opportunity to preach, I would have you embrace it. Whatever you want of me that I can supply you with, you shall have. You must do all you can to make your sisters comfortable in their setting out. What Providence designs concerning me I know not. At present, it seems to be my duty to tarry here, though much against my inclination, but I submit to the will of Heaven. My best regards to Mrs. Vose. I hope it will some time or another be in my power to make my acknowledgment to her in person. Write me where you keep, and on what terms; whether you have any plan, or I can do any thing for you. I am surprised you heard nothing from Mr. Belknap. He was at Malden and thereabouts more than a week. God bless you, my son, and make you a blessing.

Your affectionate parent.

You had best make a sermon on the troubles of life, a necessary subject at this day.

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*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.*

Boston, May 12, 1775.

MY DEAR SON,—I have received a letter from your brother Andrew, who came to fetch your dear mother. They were all in health at Hartford, May 7. He writes, "I know not what has become of John; should be glad to see him at Fairfield." If no business offers this way, possibly it may be best to think of going thither, if you

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\* Dr. Eliot's interleaved Almanac contains this entry, 9 May: "Betsey set out for Dartmouth."—Eds.

† He joined the First Church in Dedham, 4 June, 1775. See Dr. M'Kean's Memoir of John Eliot, 2 Mass. Hist. Soc. Colls., vol. i. p. 215.—Eds.

could find a way of getting thither. The reason of his mentioning you in that manner was the hint you gave before your mother left us that you might go to Connecticut. Whatever you need you shall have, so far as is in my power. How long I may stay in the town I know not. I am in a lonely and melancholy state, but the will of the Lord be done. My love to Mr. and Mrs. Vose, Betsey, and all friends. Write by every opportunity to

Your affectionate parent.

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*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.*

Boston, May 12, 1775.

MY DEAR SON,—The only reason of my desiring you not to come into town is the fear of your not getting out again. If that could be ascertained, I should be glad to see you. I am sorry for the difficulties you are put to, but glad you got your things (so many of them) to Milton. I hope the difficulties and trials you meet with will be sanctified to you. It is no new thing to find men ungrateful. I fear Mr. Belknap hath disappointed you. I believe he hath taken young Sewall. I would have you join the church where you are, since you cannot be in Boston. Preach as soon as you will. I would have you try if you cannot get business this way before you think of going elsewhere. A bare support is all you must at present aim at. Keep close to God, and he will not forsake. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. I wish Betsey could stay with Mrs. Vose, but I would not have her do any thing to grieve her sister. When her sister is comfortably fixed at Dartmouth, possibly it may be well for her to come back. In that case, Mr. Langdon will convey her back. He kindly offers to take her into his family at Dartmouth. I should not dislike it, as possibly those she depends upon may not be so willing to receive her as she may imagine. I am glad you find Mrs. Woodman to make your clothes. Mrs. Eliot and little Samuel will be with you by water on the morrow or the next day. Look out for them, and help them along as fast as you can. I shall send you some money and those other papers you mention by her. My best regards to Mrs. Vose, whom I shall never be able to compensate for her kindness to mine. May God reward her. If you see Mr. Dexter, let him know that he is often in my thoughts, and hath my best wishes and prayers. God knows whether I shall ever have the pleasure of conversing with him again. Your cousin Samuel and his wife, and Mr. Hill and family, will sail, I suppose, for Halifax to-morrow.\* I have mentioned whether there might not be an opening there for you. God will provide for you, my son. How long I shall stay I know not. May God direct me. I would not stay another day, if I did not think it would

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\* Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Eliot left the vessel in which they had embarked at Marblehead, and finally settled in Haverhill until they were able to return to Boston. See the "Andrews Letters," Mass. Hist. Soc. Proceedings for July, 1865, pp. 406, 407. — Eds.

hurt the interest of religion for me to leave the town at present. I am in continual hurry and confusion. Your brothers are well, and desire to be remembered to you.

Your affectionate parent.

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*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.*

Boston, May 19, 1775.

DEAR JOHNNY, — I received yours of the 16th just now. I write this, though I know not when you will receive it. I should like your being at Mr. Haven's very well, but your board will be expensive; and I do not see how you will be in any way of supporting it. However, you may tarry there awhile if you think best, and very possibly Providence may point out a way for your subsistence. Trust in God and do good, and verily thou shalt be fed. I am glad to find Mr. B. was not to blame. I thought hardly of him; and I believe his sister, Betsey E[liot], heard me express my wonder at your not hearing from him. I have thoughts of sending to Mr. Thayer to know whether any place is open there.\* Clark is an unfaithful, bad man. He had buttons, and ought to have sent them; but it is an ungrateful world we live in. May God prepare us for a better!

Your affectionate parent.

My situation is unpleasant, but know not how to leave it. What God designs I know not. I desire to leave all with him. Have heard nothing from your mother or sisters. My kind regards to Major Vose and Mrs. Vose, Betsey, Mr. Haven and lady, &c.

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*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.†*

Boston, June 5, 1775.

MY DEAR SON, — Yours of June 2d I received. I had been anxious about you, not having heard from you for so long a time. I am much pleased with the thought of your going to Dover. I received a letter from your brother at Fairfield, wherein he informs me of the very agreeable situation your mother, &c., are in. He adds: "We are exceedingly concerned for John. I wish he was here. He might have some grammar scholars, and get something, though but little. As to his board, he should be welcome to it from me, though he must not expect delicacies the year round. If he can do no better, let him come along: we will provide for him as well as we can." Your brother is very kind, but I am much better pleased with your being at Mr. Bel-

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\* The Rev. Ebenezer Thayer, minister of Hampton, N. H., was Dr. Eliot's nephew, and is doubtless the person mentioned. — Eds.

† The previous letters to John Eliot are addressed to Milton. This is addressed: "At the Rev. Mr. Belknap's, Dover, to the care of Nathaniel Carter, Esq." An interleaved copy of Mills and Hicks's Register for 1775, with MS. notes in John Eliot's handwriting, shows that he reached Dover on June 14th, and opened his school on the 16th. — Eds.

knap's, to whom I hold myself extremely obliged. You will take care to follow his advice. Treat him with gratitude and respect, and imitate his pious and exemplary life. Let it be your first care to walk with God, and maintain a constant intercourse with heaven, and let your whole conversation be as becometh the gospel. I hope you will soon make the dedication of yourself to God in public. See to it that your heart be right. I would have you preach as soon as you find yourself prepared for it. Study to be an Evangelical preacher, and to win souls to Christ. In your school, be steady and aim at doing good to the children you have in charge; be very careful to avoid severity, which is generally hurtful to both master and scholar. When I shall see you God only knows. I thought to leave the town soon, but so many remain here that I fear my going would hurt religion. I stay much against my inclination, and yet dare not go. May I have direction from above. My state is uncomfortable enough, lonely and surrounded with trying scenes; and yet my friends who remain do every thing to support and strengthen me. What will be the event God knows. May he overrule all for his glory, and may these disputes terminate in a lasting harmony between Great Britain and the Colonies. Your brothers salute you. When I leave the town, I purpose to go to Salem before I set out for Connecticut. You will then hear from me. It would give me great pleasure to see you, but this I am denied; and I submit to this as well as the many other acts of self-denial I am called to, I hope with some degree of cheerfulness, because all is ordered by a wise heavenly Father. Remember me with sincere regard to Mr. Belknap, and, if you have any opportunity to write, let me hear from you. If you could convey a letter to Salem, to the care of Mr. Diman,\* or Deacon Sharp at Capt. Dodge's, it would come safe to the hands of

Your affectionate parent.

Be sure to behave well to Mr. B. I am not certain it will be best for you to board with him, but do in every thing as he would have you.

I know not what you mean by receiving a degree the next Commencement. I have heard nothing of Commencements, Degrees, or Diploma. However, upon every account, I approve of your not receiving a degree of A. M. this year.

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*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.†*

MY SON,—When you go out of town, write to your mother, and desire their letters may be sent to Mr. Greenleaf's care. Send my letter to your brother by a sure hand. Pay Mr. Lawrence six dollars which I have given you for a ticket I let him have, and which I had

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\* The Rev. James Diman was pastor of the Second Church in Salem. — EDS.

† Samuel Eliot left Boston August 2d, and remained at Waltham during the siege. — EDS.



not paid for. The other five (I think that is the number) are at Fairfield, besides several others which had been paid for. If you have a good opportunity, send for them, and receive the money and keep it for the right owners. They are in a little parchment book which I gave your mother, in the little trunk with my sermons. Desire your brother Andrew to take particular care of the papers that enclose each ticket, that you may be right in returning the money. Take particular care of Mr. Hill's papers; write to him that you have them. If you go to Haverhill, you may leave them with your cousin Samuel, but do not let them go out of your hands to any one else. Let me know when you have delivered them. Inquire about your sister Betsey, and send me word where and how she is. Let her know that I have heard from her mamma and John. Send me word whether Mr. Ingraham arrived when it was said he did, and whether he saw Mr. Hollis. Keep my clothes at Waltham; let them be spread. Write me by every good opportunity. Commend me to all my friends, and tell them I long to breathe a free air.

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*Andrew Eliot to Isaac Smith, Jr.\**

Boston, June 19, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR, — According to your desire, I write without ceremony to acquaint you with the state of things in Boston. You left us shut up, and the people removing from the town as fast as they were permitted. I am told that more than nine thousand are removed. Many more were preparing to follow, but passes have been stopped for some time. So that thousands are detained who desire to go, among whom I am one. I tarried purely out of regard to the inhabitants who were left, that they might not be without ordinances and worship in the way which they choose. It is now perhaps too late to think of removing, as all communication is at present stopped. The last Saturday gave us a dreadful specimen of the horrors of civil war. Early on Saturday morning, we were alarmed by the firing of cannon from the fort which is erected on Copp's Hill, and from the ships which lie in Charles River. Upon inquiry, it was found that the Provincials had been forming lines on a hill below the hill in Charlestown commonly called Bunker's Hill. This intrenchment was calculated extremely well to

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\* This letter is addressed: "Mr. Isaac Smith, Jr., to the care of the Master of the New England Coffee House, Threadneedle Street, London. Favored by Mr. Silsby." Isaac Smith, Jr., graduated from Harvard College in the class of 1767. He was tutor there at the commencement of hostilities, and throwing up his office went to England in May, 1775. He was ordained over a dissenting congregation at Sidmouth, Devonshire, in 1778, but returned to America after the war, in April, 1784; was Librarian of the College for three years, and afterward preached in Boston. He died in 1829. He was an intimate friend of the Eliots, and in his interleaved Almanac for 1775 speaks of more than one letter passing between them. Frequent mention of him may be found in Mr. George A. Ward's Journal and Letters of Samuel Curwen. A letter from his father, a merchant of Boston, copied by a member of the Eliot family, immediately follows this letter of Dr. Eliot. — Eds.

annoy Boston and the ships in the harbor. About one o'clock, a large body of British troops set off from Boston to attack these lines. About three o'clock, the engagement began, and lasted perhaps an hour. Great part of the time the firing seemed incessant. It seems the troops stormed the lines, and after a warm opposition carried them. Perhaps there has seldom been a more desperate action. As the Provincials were up to the chin intrenched, they made a great slaughter of the King's troops before they retreated. How many were killed on each side it is impossible for me to say. It is generally agreed that seventy or eighty officers were killed or wounded on the side of the regulars. It was a new and awful spectacle to us to have men carried through the streets groaning, bleeding, and dying. Some of the best officers are taken off, and some hundreds of the privates. The attack was commanded by General Howe. How the Provincials have suffered is not yet known, nor indeed shall I pretend to give a particular account of the terrible scene. You must take this from the prints. Dr. Warren is among the slain. It is said he had the chief direction of the defence. If this is true, it seems to me he was out of his line. Since this action, the King's troops have taken possession of Bunker's Hill, and fortified it strongly. On the other side, the Provincials are intrenching themselves on the hill back of the road in Charlestown, just beyond the two-mile stone. Amidst the carnage of Saturday, the town of Charlestown was set on fire, and I suppose every dwelling-house and every public building is consumed till you have passed the passage to the mills, and are come to the houses where Woods the baker dwelt. You may easily judge what distress we were in to see and hear Englishmen destroying one another, and a town with which we have been so intimately connected all in flames. We are left in anxious expectation of the event. God grant the blood already spilt may suffice. But this we cannot reasonably expect. May we be prepared for every event. It is talked that a further attack will be made on the Provincials, but I cannot pretend to guess what will be the motion on either side, though every one I meet seems to be as able to tell as if they were admitted into the council of war. I know by this time you will be anxious to hear of the fate of the College. I can only say that last week I received a letter from the President, informing me that there was to be a meeting of as many Overseers and Fellows as could be got together, in order to consult what was proper to be done. What was done at this meeting I do not know. I wish they may come to no sudden resolutions: it is no time to give offence. I have heard it said there was talk of moving the College to Haverhill or to Worcester. I wonder who will send their children in this time of confusion. I should think it were better to leave matters at present, and to wait the issue of things, but you know how little influence I have had of late. Perhaps it will one day be seen that it had been as well if more moderate counsels had been pursued. Dr. Appleton, I hear, is declining. The righteous are taken from the evil to come. I forgot to mention that a few days before the action the Governor issued a proclamation offering pardon to all that would lay down their

arms except Mr. Adams and Mr. Hancock, and at the same time putting us under martial law. It would be a great comfort to me, if I could leave the town, but I submit to what God is pleased to order. I gave Mr. Amory a letter to Thomas Brand Hollis, Esq. It was written when my mind was very deeply affected with the distresses of the town. I know not that there was any thing that would give offence; but as it was written when I was greatly agitated, and in such a manner as that the writer would be easily known, I should be glad it might be used with caution. You will be so good as to find, if possible, that worthy gentleman, and communicate my desire. His direction is at Messrs. Harrison & Cromwell, Attorneys, Million Bank, London, — if I mistake not, in Lombard Street. I have not his letter by me, and therefore am not certain I give his direction exactly right. You may easily find him by inquiry, and I should be glad you would make no delay. Whether you will receive any other letter from me is uncertain. But, however Providence may dispose of me, that you may enjoy every blessing you can yourself desire, is the earnest wish and prayer of

Your sincere friend and humble servant.

I write in great haste and perturbation of mind. You will therefore excuse every impropriety, and will not wonder I do not write more in this very critical day.

JUNE 22.

Things have been pretty quiet since the above. We have no communication with those on the other side the water, but can perceive that they are fortifying at Chelsea, Malden, Winter Hill, the hills in Roxbury, Dorchester, and where not? Every inch of ground will be disputed. Can no way be found to accommodate these unhappy differences? If Great Britain should finally subjugate us, I fear for the College, I fear for the churches. There is great wrath against the President, and indeed against the Presbyterian ministers in general. If the Americans prevail . . . ! You may possibly, if things should be settled while you are in England, be able to serve your country. The God of heaven preserve us! It is an inexhaustible source of comfort that the government of the world is just where it is.\*

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*Isaac Smith of Boston to his Son Isaac Smith, Jr.*

SALEM, June 30, 1775.

DEAR ISAAC, — I wrote you soon after you sailed by way of Bilboa, since which many things have happened; though it is probable you may have heard some account of the destruction of Charlestown, the most unjustifiable cruel action ever committed by any barbarians; by which action three-quarters of innocent inhabitants have lost their all, and must be dependent for a livelihood. They set fire to the town

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\* An interesting letter from Dr. Eliot to this same Isaac Smith, dated April 5, 1776, is printed by Dr. George E. Ellis in his "Celebration of the Centennial Anniversary of the Evacuation of Boston," p. 190. — Eds.

as soon as the troops landed; began at the street by the ferry-ways and meeting-house about two o'clock in the afternoon, and have burned all the houses as far as Stearns's, as you go [up] Mystic Road. The regulars attacked the others in their intrenchments. The combat lasted about two hours, with great warmth on either side, when the regulars' third division got possession of some intrenchments begun the night before, and not completed, as they had got up but two or three pair small cannon. There were three ships and three floating batteries playing most part of the day from Copp's Hill right opposite, and throwing bombs likewise. Yet it does not appear that the colony's troops have lost but about fifty killed, about one hundred wounded, and thirty taken prisoners, which is very wonderful. On the other side, it seems to be acknowledged that they have had killed and wounded a thousand, some say many more. It seems there were about eighty officers of that number, the greater part killed, or since I believe dead. Amongst the field officers are Colonel Abercrombie, Majors Pitcairn and Williams, so that the advantage of getting the hill in Charlestown has cost them very dear.

I have seen many from Boston who were eye-witnesses to the most melancholy scene ever beheld in this part of the world. The Saturday night and Sabbath were taken up in carrying over the dead and wounded. All the wood-carts in town, it is said, were employed. Chaises and coaches for officers. They have taken the workhouse, almshouse, and manufactory house for the wounded. In the several skirmishes from the time of the Lexington affair, the army, I believe, are at least two thousand weakened; and, as they are confined entirely to salt provisions, we hear they begin to have the flux, by which means we are afraid the inhabitants will likewise get sick. There has been an account taken since martial law has been proclaimed, and there are about five thousand inhabitants still remaining in town. Amongst them are all the selectmen, who are not permitted to come out at all, nor any others since the battle. Mrs. Newell has been out about a fortnight. Mr. Payn's family and Mrs. Newell's are still at Mr. Brooks's. Your mother and I were coming from Waltham on Saturday afternoon when we heard the account of the engagement. She chose to return, after which I went to Cambridge; where among others that were wounded was Colonel Gardner, of Cambridge, very badly in the thigh; Colonel Gridley, a flesh wound in his leg. Your cousin Billy, being sick, was not out.

The intrenchments extend from Winter Hill over to Cambridge road. There are now under arms from Roxbury, and so round to the other encampment, about sixteen thousand men, the other governments' not all come. On the other side, don't think they have six thousand, horse and all, able to do duty. It has been thought they would have come out Roxbury way, and so burn the town, which I suppose will be, should they come out; but they are pretty well prepared to receive them. At present, don't think they will come out either way just now, though there is no knowing. There is not any wood in the town that the inhabitants can buy.

Drs. Eliot, Mather, and Byles are still in town. Dr. Mather's daughter I saw at Waltham. She came out the day before the engagement, and left every thing at Charlestown, and, not being able to get carts to carry them into the country, has lost all; as likewise many others who had left their goods at Charlestown, which the sailors, it is said, have plundered. Dr. Welsh, who is like to become a cousin, by the way, of Kent, happened to be out of town, lost his clothes, linen, and many other things. And we are now coming into more distressing times, as I suppose the cutters, &c., will stop all wood vessels, as they have already begun, and pressing every thing that comes in. And, as the events of all are under the divine direction, we have at this most melancholy time more need to look up to Him who can overrule the present unnatural contention for the peace and happiness of both nations.

I hope you will conduct yourself in such a manner as to do honor to that profession you have taken upon you, and that you may escape the pollutions that are in the world. Your mother, brothers, and sisters are all well. Mr. Eliot and lady board at Mr. John White's, at Haverhill. Mr. Boylston and Mr. Bromfield are still at Boston. But as Mr. Jonathan Amory is in Boston, who has had opportunity to write from thence, he may have informed his brother many things that we are unknown to.

Your affectionate father.

P. S. July 1. Since martial law has taken place, there is no such thing as saying any thing. Poor, harmless Shrimpton Hunt, standing by his door at the time of the engagement, was overheard saying he hoped our people would get the better of the others, was taken up and confined in gaol. Sam. Gore, for calling over to his sister to come and see a funeral pass, was taken up and confined some time; and a person who came out by water yesterday says Jimmy Lovell is in close gaol or in the dungeon, but nobody can tell for what. A person, who says his intelligence was such that it might be depended on, says that the Fifty-second Regiment had but two captains returned, and that the number of officers killed and wounded was ninety-four; one hundred and two sergeants, and seven hundred soldiers killed and since dead, besides a great number wounded. It is said by officers who were at the battle of Minden that it was scarce equal. A most dismal scene to be killing one another.

The Continental Congress have appointed Colonel Washington to the chief command, who is on the road; Colonel Ward, the second; General Lee, the third; Colonel Schuyler, Adjutant-General.

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*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.*

Monday morning.

MY SON, — Your billet I received. I shall take care of those articles you mention, if they are not gone before I shall see the person with whom you intrusted them. Remember me to all my kind friends.

I was not at all well last evening: purpose to keep house to-day, though better. I forgot to mention to you that, when I go away, Hannah purposes to go. Possibly you might meet with a place for her. If she could have small wages or only her board, it would be better than for her to tarry here. Send my letters to Salem the first opportunity, and take particular care to send Mr. Hill's; and, when you deliver his notes, it may not be amiss to desire him to compare them with the schedule, to see that they are right. Love to Betsey and the dear little ones; to Mr. and Mrs. Greenleaf and all theirs; to everybody else, especially my own people. When you see Mr. Hill, ask him if he can tell whether Mr. Stearns received any thing for me. I hear Mr. Cary is at Haverhill. In case you go there, inquire for him, present my particular regards to him, tell him he hath hardly been out of my thoughts since the burning of Charlestown. I trust he hath an inheritance above, which cannot be destroyed. My son, you see the emptiness of this world, and by what an uncertain tenure we hold the things of it. Make sure of a better portion. To see you a good rather than a great man is the desire of

Your affectionate parent.

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*Andrew Eliot to Daniel Parker.\**

Boston, July 31, 1775.

MY DEAR SIR, — Your great attention to me and concern for my comfort deserve my sincerest thanks. I received the two quarters of mutton, and have divided one between Dr. Rand and Mr. Welsh, who express their acknowledgments in the highest terms. Part of the other I shall send to make broth for the prisoners, who have really suffered for want of fresh meat. I shall this day make a quantity of broth for the sick around me, who are very numerous. You cannot conceive the relief you will give to great number of persons by this kind office. Perhaps your broth has been dispensed to thirty or forty sick people. I thank you for the ability of helping them. I have invited a number of friends to partake of the rest. It is one of the greatest pleasures I have to communicate of any good thing which Providence sends me. Oh, how have we despised former mercies! God is severely teaching us our ingratitude. May we know the blessedness of those whom he chasteneth and teacheth out of his law. After all, the difficulty of food is the least concern I have, though I very seldom meet with any thing fresh. But to live amid scenes of blood and slaughter, and other trials I do not care to mention, is hard; and yet, on the whole, I cannot say I am sorry I tarried. I hope God has made me in some measure useful in my labors both in public and private. I visit the sick in all parts of the town, but alas! I do but little in comparison with what I ought to do for so good a Master. This is my greatest distress. The door is again opened for the departure of the inhabi-

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\* Daniel Parker was a friend and parishioner of Dr. Eliot, who took refuge in Salem during the siege. — Eds.

tants : multitudes will embrace the opportunity. The more go from us, the easier it will be for me to depart. In this view, I rejoice to see my friends going from me ; and yet, if God calls me to tarry, why should I repine ? It is because I have not that temper of mind I ought to have that I cannot leave myself wholly to Providence, and be perfectly easy in the situation in which God sees fit to place me. I have yet fixed no time for my departure. I find the very mention of it occasions uneasy sensations in the people, which gives me pain. May God direct me. I have just received a letter from my son, in Fairfield, dated July 20, which informs me of the health and welfare of Mrs. Eliot and my children there. Blessed be God. You cannot conceive what a relief this affords me. Pray remember me to your dear consort, her mother, and the children, and all other of my friends and congregation who are in Salem. My assembly is [was] large : it hath decreased ; it will soon be small. Oh, how happy should I be to see my own people collected together, and to preach once more to them ! but the will of the Lord be done. Pray let me have a remembrance with you, and believe me to be

Your obliged and affectionate friend and humble servant.

I do not mention Deacon Sharpe, because I propose to write to him.

*August 2.*—Mr. Welsh was as communicative of his mutton and broth as I was. In short, you cannot conceive how much good you have done. Mr. Austin tells me he verily believes it saved the lives of a number of people. I eat very little of it myself, and yet never had so much pleasure in any provision in my life. If I could only get a little at times, I would engage not to taste it myself, and to give it *only* to the sick. Provision for myself is my least concern. The Lord is my shepherd : I shall not want.

If you could send me a line by this transport, commit it to the care of Mr. Knox, who will convey it safe to me.

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*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.\**

Boston, August 1, 1775.

MY DEAR SON,—It is long since I heard from you. The last time was by a letter you wrote to Mr. Dutton, which his widow sent to me before she left the town. You had not then arrived at Dover. I hope you are now comfortably settled there. My son, fear thou the God of thy fathers, and serve him with a perfect heart and a willing mind. Be diligent in prayer, be diligent in the duties of your station. I know not whether you have yet engaged in public preaching. Let this sacred employment be entered upon with serious preparation. Think what a weighty thing it is to preach the Gospel. Be desirous of understanding it yourself before you undertake to instruct others.

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\* This letter is addressed : " At the Rev. Mr. Belknap's, Dover. To the care of Rev. Mr. Thayer in Hampton." — Eds.

Let it be your particular concern that you may have a sense of the importance of religion. This will make you earnest that others may have an acquaintance with it. Affect not a pompous and florid style, but seek a plain, easy manner of writing, which will be level to the capacity of all your hearers. This may be without sinking into incorrectness, or clothing your sentiments in a low, slovenly dress. Determine to know nothing but Christ Jesus and him crucified, and let it be your sedulous endeavor to make your hearers good men and sincere Christians. I am glad you have such a wise and prudent friend to advise and assist you as Mr. Belknap. Always consult him, and treat him with that respect and deference which his merits and his particular regard to you justly claim. In your school, you will endeavor to be faithful to your trust, and aim at establishing your authority by mild and gentle persuasion rather than by an austere carriage and severe discipline. It is much more desirable to have it said that your scholars love you than that they fear you. If they love you, they will fear you. I should be extremely glad to see you, but at present am denied that favor. I remain still in town, much beyond my expectation and desire. I intended at first to continue only a few weeks; but the numbers who still remained, and the solicitations of many that I would not leave them, prevailed. I thought it my duty to give up my inclination to what I esteemed a call of Providence. I have been called to scenes of difficulty and distress, but have been carried through them. When I shall be able to go out, I know not. I wish it might be soon; and yet why should I wish for this, if I can be more useful here? I have not yet learned the great lesson of self-denial as I ought and as I desire. Amidst all the fears, dangers, and anxieties with which I am surrounded, I commit myself to my heavenly Father.

I have just received a letter from Fairfield, dated July 20th, informing me that your mother and her children are well, and as happy as they can be in the present state of difficulty and confusion. Your brother there hath a daughter born. At the same time, I was informed of the welfare of Mrs. Eliot at Waltham, and her little ones. I have heard nothing of your sister Betsey since you left us. God grant that I may once more see my children collected together; but I leave all to his sovereign disposal. I have nothing particular to write you of the state of things here. The town is visited with a dysentery, which carries off many of the inhabitants. Five are to be carried to the grave this evening. This greatly increases my labors. Give my sincere regards to Mr. Belknap, and his dear consort, and her sister. Remember me to his father and family, and to all friends. May God bless you, my son, and make you a blessing!

Your affectionate parent.

Write me by the first opportunity: send it to Mr. Daniel Parker at Salem, or Mr. Greenleaf at Watertown, and either will convey it. But be careful to write nothing that relates to things you would not have known to others; for your letters will be examined. Write as



soon as you can ; for I hope to be gone in a few weeks. God knows whether I shall be so happy.

*August 3.*—I yesterday received yours of the 16th June, together with one from Mr. B. I rejoice to find things are so agreeable ; hope they will continue so. I send this out of town by your brother Samuel, who will leave us to-morrow. I fear I shall not have time to write to Mr. B. by this conveyance. Make my warmest acknowledgments to him. I have just written to your mamma, who will be comforted to hear of your welfare.

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*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.*

Boston, August 19, 1775.

MY DEAR SON,—I was greatly concerned that I heard nothing from you in so long a time. I was not able to account for it, and was fearful you was sick. I was almost as much surprised when I received yours that you gave me no account of a number of things I committed to you. Have you sent your letters forward ? It is surprising to me that I have had no answer from Salem, nor anywhere else. Where is your sister Betsey ? I have the greatest anxiety about her. Have you sent word to Mr. Hill ? I have received two letters from him about those papers. Did Mr. Ingraham see Mr. Hollis, &c. ? Did you receive what I sent you ? Must I pay the bearer, or did you ? Your Mr. Sparhawk declined delivering the coal ; said Mr. E. gave him the small things. I did not choose to dispute. You told me of some shrub. I find none. I am glad to hear of John. Josiah expected to hear from you. I could not obtain a pass, if I would, but hope things will be better in a few weeks. If I could convey my clothes, should rejoice to take a pl a chaise to Fairfield. Had the disorder of the times upon me ek ; am better, but weak. I wish I was out of the town. It is inconceivably difficult. I have hardly time to think of it, being perpetually in sick and dying rooms. The sickness doth not increase ; but the aged die for want of strength of nature to grapple with it, the poor for want of necessary comforts. Neighbor Grant is dead. Poor Mr. Swift was said to be dying last evening. When you go to the eastward, give my best regards to all friends. Remember me most affectionately to your cousin Samuel and his wife, and tell Mrs. Andrews that I am extremely obliged to her for the kind notice she hath so frequently taken of me in her letters to Mr. A. My son, you live in a troublesome time. Remember this is not your resting-place : make sure of an inheritance beyond the grave. Wisdom is the principal thing : get wisdom. Remember me to your Betsey. Kiss the pretty lambs for me. May God bless them ! Compliments to your father Greenleaf and his family. I fear Mr. Scollay will lose his son.\* I want supports myself, but am continually called to give them to others. I cannot enlarge. The times are bad, but

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\* The eldest son of Mr. Scollay died in August. See Essex Inst. Hist. Colls., vol. xiii. p. 196. — EDS.

the corruptions of men make them so. I wonder your mamma hath not received a number of letters, particularly two I sent to the care of Mr. Treat, of New York. Write to her every convenient opportunity. I want to say a great deal about some things; but I hastily put down things as they come into my mind. I shall add no more than that I am

Your affectionate parent.

Pray write me as soon as possible.

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*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.*

Boston, August 27, 1775.

MY DEAR SON,—I have received yours of the 22d inst., and your billet of Saturday. When you see Mr. Hill, you will see that his papers are right. I communicated to Dr. Perkins what you wrote of his niece. He hath received nothing from her. If you know any thing more of her, you will oblige him if you will write it to me. I am in a better state of health than I was, but my constant fatigues keep me weak. We have many taken down with fevers. I rejoice to hear your family is in health. May God preserve them! I long to hear that your Betsey is safely delivered. She hath my prayers and best wishes. You might break open the parcel from T. B. H. [Hollis], inform me what is in it, and take particular care of the contents. I suppose there is a letter enclosed. You may open it, and, if you think it proper, convey it to me; but this I leave to your prudence, when you have read it. You will use the utmost caution in sending it. I did not know of Mr. Pemberton's going time enough to write. My best regards to your parents with you, and your brothers and sisters, and all other friends. I wrote to you by Mr. Edwards and by Mr. Collins. You mention one of 23d. I know not which it was, but hope it was that which enclosed the letter to Fairfield. I am sending to your mother by a gentleman bound to New Haven. I am tired of writing about coming out, but am more tired of being here, and yet am greatly afflicted at the thought of leaving such numbers. I never was so embarrassed in my life. May God direct and support me! Whatever awaits me I desire to submit.

Yours affectionately.

My regards to Mr. Cushing and all friends. Your brother says you ought to have written to him concerning something he committed to you. Take care of the enclosed paper. There was a bag of allspice in Mr. Holmes's room, which Hannah and Molly Laughton say was yours. I took it away, but would be glad to know whose it is. If it is Mr. Holmes's, I will return it. I write a line on the other side to Betsey. Send it to her. When you see her, give her your best advice, and if she wants any small matter supply her.

*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.*

BOSTON, August 28, 1775.

MY DEAR SON,—Yours from Waltham\* I received with pleasure. I am glad your situation is agreeable. I am concerned about your health. Fear that keeping school and preaching will together be too much for you. At present, you had best preach but seldom; and, if some time hence (I should not choose it very soon) you should be engaged in constant preaching, you must quit the school. But I would not have you think of this at present. I am sorry you are deprived of a father's advice and assistance at this critical time of life; but Mr. B. must be father to you, and you must especially acknowledge God in all your ways, that he may direct your paths. O my son, walk closely with God, and preach Christ Jesus and him crucified. How God will dispose of me is uncertain. I hope to be with your dear mother before winter. I have great difficulties to go through, but I submit because I know God doeth all things well. I leave myself and family with him. I gave Mr. Belknap's letter, etc., to Mr. Parker immediately on the receipt. I conclude he will hear from him or Mr. Dawes. Mr. Parker tells me he hath not been able to procure any money, as he hoped he should. My best regards to Mr. Belknap, his consort, his father and mother, and all other friends. Write to your brother Samuel as often as you can. He can communicate intelligence to me. To hear of your welfare will always afford great satisfaction to

Your affectionate parent.

I conclude you know that Governor Wentworth is come to reside in Boston.

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*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.†*

BOSTON, September 6, 1775.

MY DEAR SON,—What I greatly feared is come upon me. I had prepared my things for a speedy departure from this devoted town, but heard yesterday that it was determined in a conclave of our new-fangled councillors that I should not have a pass. However, I was determined to apply. This day I waited on the Town Major, who peremptorily refused to give me a pass. I endeavored to expostulate the matter with him, but could have no reason assigned but that he was to allow only women and children. I argued that men had been allowed to go. He said they had made particular interest, but that there were some who would not be allowed to go. When I found that all I could say availed nothing, I left him. I shall soon wait on the General, but fear it is already determined that I should not go.

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\* John Eliot's interleaved almanac for 1775 shows that he left Dover on the 7th, was in Waltham the 10th, and preached in Salem on the 13th. The first entry of his preaching is in Mr. Belknap's pulpit on July 16th.—Eds.

† This letter is addressed to Waltham, "To be left at Mr. Cushing's, who is desired to deliver it with care by his humble servant, A. Eliot."—Eds.

It is very hard treatment. I have no fuel, and very little provision. Some of those gentlemen who have inserted themselves in this affair insinuated that I made money by tarrying. So far from this, I do not receive one-half of what I received from my people, and, if I must tarry, should be willing to preach only for my wood, which would cost more than I am like to receive, if it is to be got at all. If I cannot go, I must submit; but what will be the event with me and a great number of others, God knows. To tarry here through winter will be dreadful; but I hope Providence will find out a way for our relief. I am at present in health, but great numbers die, chiefly children and old persons. I commit myself to my heavenly Father. I am greatly distressed for your dear mother, who will be inconsolable when she hears that there is like to be a longer separation. May she have divine support! I long to hear of Betsey's safe delivery. She has my best wishes and prayers. Remember me to her with the tenderest affection. May God bless you and her and your dear children! I am at a loss whether it is best yet to inform your mother that I am refused a pass till I have taken every step; and you must be cautious how you mention any thing which I mention about the mandamus councillors, so as that it may reach these quarters, for we are made offenders for a word. I hope the time will come when we may speak and write freely. I have received two agreeable letters from your cousin Samuel. Let me hear from you the first opportunity; but, if you write any thing of a private nature, take care to send it so as it may not be seen by those who now govern us. There is but one way in which you can send safely: you know that. My best regards to Mr. G[reenleaf] and lady, and all friends.

I am, under all embarrassments,

Your affectionate, &c.

Cannot you send by ——\* the whole parcel from T. B. H. Pray write Josiah by the first conveyance.

I am at length allowed again to visit the prisoners. They were overjoyed to see me. Except poor Delanne, the butcher, they seemed all in a good way, most of them very hearty and well. There are but eleven living out of thirty. It was a great grief to me that I could not see Capt. Walker † and others before they died, as they were earnestly desirous of seeing me; but so it was ordered. If you have any opportunity to send to Fairfield, let me know it. You can write some things to me which may be seen, when you cannot write otherwise. Let me hear from you soon.

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\* A name in the original has been carefully erased. Dr. Eliot probably thought it wiser, in case the letter should fall into hostile hands. — Eps.

† Capt. Benjamin Walker was wounded and taken prisoner at Bunker Hill. His leg was amputated, and he died in August. — Eps.

*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.*

BOSTON, September 13, 1775.

MY DEAR SON, — I received your billet dated September 1, and just now yours of yesterday. I am in an uncomfortable state, but must submit to Providence. When I consider that affliction cometh not forth of the dust, I feel calm. But, when I think of the injurious treatment of men, my passions rise. I need more grace than I have. I wish you had mentioned the date of Polly's letter. I would have you send the enclosed by a safe hand.\* They talk of taking Mr. Holmes's house for an hospital. I fear some such fate of my house when I leave it, if I should ever be allowed. Every house is now taken as the officers please. Gen. Clinton is in Mrs. Hancock's, Burgoyne in Mr. Bowdoin's, &c. I shall be glad to see T. B. H. when it is convenient. My love to Betsey. I pray God to send her deliverance. Kiss the dear babes for me. Remember me to the amiable family with which you are connected. We are much affected with the death of Mr. Hunt and Mr. Howe. Worthy men. Poor Boston! But all God doth is right. Josiah is well. The sickness abates. Many are dead. Your good old Mrs. Adams is gone to rest. Let me hear from you by every opportunity. God bless you, my son. You have the continual prayers of

Your affectionate parent.

I send your mamma's letter open to you. Seal it and enclose it. You must be cautious in writing to me, as your letters will be opened, unless you take particular care.

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*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.†*

BOSTON, September 16, 1775.

MY DEAR SON, — I have only a moment's time to inform you that I am in health, though low in spirits. I have been denied a pass, which deprives me of the opportunity of seeing you at present. I hope the difficulty will be soon removed, and that I shall have liberty to come out before winter. In the mean time, I commit you to the divine protection. I lately heard that your mother and family were well. You have seen a good deal of the instability of earthly things. I hope you have made it your great concern to secure an interest in a better world. My warmest regards to Mr. Belknap, his wife, and all friends. I saw an advertisement in the paper, calling on all to apply for their

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\* The following sentences are erased in the original letter: "I have in it mentioned Mr. Hancock's marriage. I suppose it is true. If it is not, desire your brother not to say a word of what I write on that subject." Mr. Hancock married Dorothy Quincy, 4 Sept., 1775. — Eds.

† This letter is addressed: "To the care of Mr. Jacob Treadwell, at Portsmouth, who is desired to forward it by his sincere friend, S. E." — Eds.

degrees by the first of October.\* I think it will be best for you to apply, if it be not too late, and you can with any convenience. I suppose you cannot be there in person: if not, write to Samuel to apply, and to pay the dues. Wishing you every blessing, I am  
Your affectionate parent.

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*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.*

Boston, October 20, 1775.

MY DEAR SON,—I received your short billet at the end of Mr. B.'s letter. Omit no opportunity of writing. It is almost the only earthly consolation I have to hear of the welfare of my friends. I see no prospect of my having liberty to leave the town, and am preparing as well as I can to lay in for the winter. I am afraid your good mother will be distressed at this long separation. If ever I am so happy as to meet that dear woman again, nothing but death shall again separate us. I am concerned that you have heard nothing from Fairfield for so long a time. Write to your mamma as soon as you can. If I may judge her from myself, the least line to let her know that I am well will yield her some satisfaction. I sent a letter for her a few days ago to Betsey to be conveyed by you. Let her have it as soon as you can. I had time only to write a few words. O my son, I have gone through the most trying scenes that I ever did through my whole life. God knows what I am yet to endure. To him I refer myself, my dear consort, my children, and all my concerns. The great Lord of all doth all things well. You did not write me word whether you saw Mr. Stearns at Billerica, and whether you received the tickets from Fairfield. If you did, convey the money to your mamma. I wish I knew how to convey her more. Inquire of her what demands she has. I will do every thing I can to answer them. I would suffer myself rather than she should. Possibly I may get a draft on some person at New York. Your friend D. refuses to let me enter his yard to take away the coal according to your agreement, unless he has an order from Mr. G. A certain lawyer† demanded the keys to

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\* The College was broken up by the war, and, as is well known, after consultation of the Overseers, it was decided to open the academic year 1775-76 at Concord. This announcement was made September 6th, and published in the "Boston Gazette" (then printed in Watertown) on the 11th. Previous issues of the paper, however, beginning with August 28th, had contained a notice, signed by the President, that candidates for degrees must comply with the requisite conditions on or before October 1st, at which time the College would issue a general diploma. This is the notice Dr. Eliot saw. The "Gazette" of October 16th contains the general diploma in full, with the names of the recipients of degrees. Seventeen members of the class of 1772 (John Eliot one of them) received the Master's degree. It is, perhaps, worth notice that, although the names of the students had been printed alphabetically in catalogues since 1773, and the names of the Bachelors in this diploma are so arranged, those of the Masters follow the old style, and stand in the order of the rank of their respective families. — Eds.

† Over this word the name Danforth is written. — Eds.

attach it for some lottery-tickets. He demanded them of Josiah. He told him he should not have them. He threatened to force the door. I think he will not presume, although he declares he will, and run the chance of all consequences. I hope I shall do without it, but should be glad of direction from Mr. G. My regards to Mr. G. and lady, and your dear wife. God bless her and your dear little ones. I did not receive your letter in season, or I should have endeavored to convey a line by Mr. Ingraham. My compliments to his consort. I have much to say, but am obliged to forbear. You and yours are ever near the heart of

Your affectionate parent.

I desire to know whether you got John his degree. If you go to Cambridge, I wish you would see Dr. Appleton. Give my dutiful regards to him. Let him know that I think of him every day; should rejoice to see him, but hope he remembers me at the throne of grace. I never needed his prayers more than now, and never so much wanted to converse with him. Write me any thing about the College. Where is our little Molly? I would send our Betsey her winter clothes, if I knew how to convey them. See what she wants of necessaries (she must think of nothing else), and supply her. Did you receive what was sent after you passed the ferry? I have paid Thompson £5 10s. for 20 lbs. of candles at 5s. 6d. You mentioned paying him in pepper, but I had none in my hands.

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*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.*

[No date.]

Hannah carries some winter things for your sister. You must take care of them. Do not let your sister suffer. I purpose to procure an order from Mr. Amory on Mr. Pain for money, which I hope you can send to your dear mother. Hannah carries, if she is permitted, some linen, which I would have you convey to Fairfield. I would have sent more, but was afraid it could not be carried. Did you send the chintz which was to go there? Give Hannah any advice or assistance she may need. I had written a long letter, but fear to send it. Douglas is confined, and a negro. The boxes must remain. I desire to commit myself to Providence. But, had I known what I was to endure, I should have been among the first that left the town, though I had lost all. Since that time, I have not been able to go. Had laid in provision for the winter; sold it again. Shall be miserably provided. If I had thought of tarrying, might have done well enough. But little is to be procured at this day.

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*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.*

Boston, November 20, 1775.

MY DEAR SON, — I received five letters from you in September; none since. I have not heard from my dearest of all earthly friends since August. It gives me great pain. Oh, that I could once more see

that best of women! You, as well as I, must be in a distressed condition. Labor to make a religious improvement of all. I hope you will live to see better days. I hardly expect this for myself. Hannah thinks it necessary to leave me. I wish you would see her. She purposes to stay some time at one Mr. Payson's, who keeps a tavern, as she tells me, in Watertown. My respectful compliments to Mr. G. and family. Love to dear Betsey. Kiss the little ones in the name of their very affectionate grandpapa.

I wish you would as soon as possible procure from the College Book of Benefactors the whole that is written under the name of Hollis, and convey it to me very speedily by a flag when one shall come in, if no other boat should pass.

A gentleman desires me to inquire whether Judge Lynde and his wife, or Mr. A. Oliver of Salem, are there, or where. If you can without going out of your way send word, it would oblige him. It is of no great importance.

I have enclosed an order drawn by Mr. Thomas Amory on Mr. Pain for £20 sterling, which I desire you to get and to send as soon as you can to your mamma.

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*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.\**

Boston, December 9, 1775.

MY DEAR SON, — I received yours of the 30th of November by the flag, with the order for the coal, for which I am much obliged to Mr. G. Mr. Black kindly favored me with a quarter of a chaldron, which was a great relief. Yours of 30th just came to hand. I am surprised you have not received mine which I sent by Hannah. She intended to go to one Mr. Payson's, of Watertown. I enclosed an order drawn on Mr. Pain by Mr. Amory for £20 sterling. Inform him of it, lest there should be any mistake, and send it to your dear mamma by a safe hand when you receive it. You must see Hannah, if possible. Your brother expected to hear from you. Best regards to Mr. G. and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ingraham, and all friends. Love to Betsey and the little ones. I send enclosed a letter to your mamma and to Betsey E. I wrote to desire you to get from the College Book of Benefactors all under the name of Hollis. I want to send it to England, where they are preparing some memoirs of that excellent man. If Doctor Winthrop could add any thing, it might be of public utility.

Yours in haste.

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*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.*

Boston, January 2, 1776.

MY DEAR SON, — I have only time to inform you that I received yours of December 6. Hope you have seen Hannah. Heard nothing

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\* This letter is addressed to Waltham, "To the obliging care of the Rev. Mr. Payson." — Eds.



of the things in your cellar till your last. You wrote nothing of good Dr. Appleton. I am in tolerable health. Josiah desires to be remembered to you, as do your Uncle and Aunt S——y. Love to your dear consort. May God preserve the little ones. My kind regards to all friends. May every blessing accompany you, whatever becomes of

Your affectionate parent.

P. S. Inform your brother John that I received his letter of December 8th, but heard nothing of any former letter: neither did I receive Mr. Barrett's. If I had, I should not have attempted to go to the lines.\* I am glad John is settled at so good a place. Send my best regards to Mr. Cranch and his lady.

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*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.*

Boston, January 18, 1776.

MY DEAR SON, — A few days ago I received yours of December 8, but have had no opportunity of answering it until now. This evening your letter of the 11th inst. came to hand. I have received no other. I knew not that you were in these parts when I wrote to your sister. I wrote to Mr. Belknap where I thought you was. I conclude you had good reasons for leaving him. I heard nothing of Mr. Barrett's writing to me, or desiring me to come to the lines till I received yours of the 8th, a month after the appointment. I could not have met you, and I wish Mr. B. had not proposed it. I am extremely glad you are at Mr. Cranch's. You cannot have a better friend or a more prudent adviser. My best compliments to him and his good lady. Thank him for his kind invitation to me. What awaits me God knows. If I leave Boston, I should be glad to come to Braintree, but should be obliged to make the best of my way to Fairfield. My heart aches for your dear mother, my faithful companion, whose absence is my daily distress.

My dear son, you cannot have your father's assistance in this critical time of your life. Be so much the more careful of yourself. Make God your friend, and he will never leave you. Study to preach Christ Jesus and him crucified. Whether you hear from me or not, you are ever on my mind. I pray God to take you under his protection, to bless you and make you a blessing. I thank God my health is not impaired, but I have difficulties more than I can mention. I leave myself, you and all my children, with my heavenly Father, and am

Your affectionate parent.

I have a letter from Mr. Belknap, December 26. They were well there. He expects you in the spring. Josiah is well, and desires his love may be remembered to you.

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\* John Eliot's almanac contains this entry, Dec. 5: "Went to the lines with a flag of truce in hopes to see my father, but was disappointed." — Eds.

11 o'clock, evening.—Your friend Mr. Joy is in town, but I have not been able to see him. I read to his father and brother what you wrote relative to him. Be careful of your health: do not suffer your spirits to be depressed. I hope you will be reserved for better times, and will find it good that you have borne the yoke in your youth. Remember me to your sister and all friends. I long to see you, but know not when I shall be so happy. I have much to say, but am told the vessel will sail in the morning.

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*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.*

BOSTON, February 15, 1776.

MY DEAR SON,—Yours of February 10th I received yesterday. I am much surprised and grieved that you have not heard from me. I have written to you several times. The last went by the same hand that carried a letter to your brother Samuel, to your brother Andrew, and to Betsey, which three Samuel writes me he has received. It is very hard, not to say cruel, to keep back letters which contain nothing offensive. I received one from you of December 8th, one short one by the hands of Mr. W——w. I have received none other. I never received one from Mr. B[arrett]. Knew nothing of your coming to the lines. I suppose the mention of that prevented my receiving the letters. I could not have had liberty, I suppose, if I had asked it. You cannot well judge of the situation I am in. I am much pleased that you are with Mr. Cranch. You will find in him and his lady a sincerity and benevolence not commonly to be met with. He is a wise, prudent friend, whom you may consult with freedom. My best regards to him and Mrs. Cranch. If I had not so loud a call at Fairfield, I should with pleasure embrace his kind invitation. I do not know a family where I could reside more agreeably. God hath been, my son, your guide hitherto: trust him still, and be sure to make him your friend. Mrs. Dutton said she had no book of yours, but a volume of my sermons, and, as you mentioned in your letter to her husband her accepting a volume, she supposed you meant *that*, and carried it with her. Mr. Joy, your friend, is in town. I have not seen him. His father tells me he will call. You do not tell me whether you have had any stated preaching. Let it be your great ambition to be a gospel preacher. I had a letter from Fairfield, dated February 8. All well there. Respects to all friends.

Your affectionate parent.

In yours, you mention a letter enclosed, which you desired me to deliver. I received none.

*Andrew Eliot to Samuel Eliot.\**

BOSTON, February 16, 1776.

MY DEAR SON,— Before the receipt of yours, dated January 29, I had not heard from you since the beginning of December. I had no information that you had seen Hannah, or of any of the particulars you mention. But, what concerns me most, I never received the account of Mr. Hollis's benefactions, by which means I am deprived of the opportunity of sending it to England, to be inserted in some memoirs of that excellent man which are preparing for the press. I wrote to John when I wrote last to you, but by a letter I received from him this week he had not received that nor any other from me. It is strange. Let him know that I have written several times to him. I send to him by this conveyance. Inform me in your next whether he preaches anywhere stately. I am sorry for Mr. Stearns. Mr. Wallis and lady are in town. I have written to you, I think, more than once, that they and their brother often inquire about you, and desire their affectionate regards may be mentioned to you.

My situation is full of cares and anxieties, and yet I bless God I have many mercies. I hope you and yours are in health. Remember me to your dear wife, and kiss the pretty babes for me. Present my respectful compliments to Mr. G. and family. Your uncle and aunts are well, and charge me to mention them with every expression of love and regard. I rejoice with our cousin at Haverhill. May God preserve the life of their babe, and bestow every blessing upon them pertaining to this life and that which is to come. I write at present with a view to convey it to you by Mrs. Pierce, who proposes to go to Waltham, and is obliging enough to undertake to deliver it to you. You must wait on that good lady, who will inform you of my welfare. You may meet with her, or at least hear of her, at Deacon Storer's. Your brother will do the best he can with your things. When shall I see you and my other friends in town? God is wise and good. I leave all with him. My heart is full; but I stop my pen, and am

Your affectionate parent.

Received a letter from Fairfield, dated February 8. Every thing there agreeable.

*Andrew Eliot to John Eliot.†*

BOSTON, February 19, 1776.

MY DEAR SON,— I have received three letters from you; one informing me of your coming to the lines, of which I had not the least notice (if I had, it would have answered no purpose, I could not have met you); one by Mr. Winslow; one last week,— in all which you express your concern that you have not heard from me. You cannot

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\* This letter is addressed: "To the obliging care of Mrs. Pierce."—Eds.

† This letter and the preceding one to John Eliot are addressed: "At Mr. Cranch's, Braintree."—Eds.

be more surprised than I am at your not hearing. I never failed answering every letter. I like your being at Mr. Cranch's very much, as I am sure you will find him a sincere friend. My most affectionate regards to him and his lady. Remember me to Betsey when you see her. I had a comfortable letter from Fairfield, dated February 8. I hope you have before this received some of my other letters. My time now is very short. I only write that you may not think I have forgotten you. I wish it were possible for me to see you. Since this is denied for the present, I can only express my earnest desires of your best good. Let me hear from you as soon as may be, and let me know whether you officiate stately in any place. Your happiness lies very near the heart of

Your affectionate parent.

Josiah sends love.

A serial of the Proceedings containing the record of the meetings for April, May, and June, was laid upon the table by the Recording Secretary.